

# Advocacy Pack

A guide to making beaches accessible  
to people of all abilities



accessible

beaches



# Introduction

Going to the beach is a quintessential part of the Australian way of life, however for the 4.4 million Australians living with a disability it is not always possible.

87% of Australians live within 50 kilometres of the coastline and with less than 2% of our 12,000 beaches accessible to people of all abilities we have a long way to go.

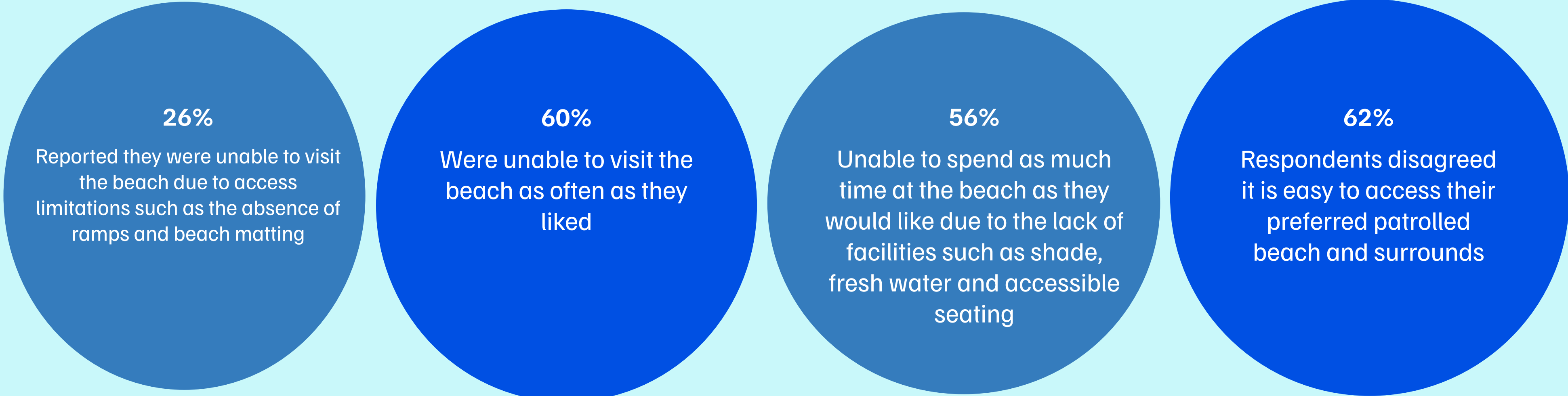
When accessing Blue Spaces (bodies of water such as the beach) people with disabilities are more likely to participate socially, be more physically active and have improved mental health and wellbeing.

In this pack you will find helpful information on what makes a beach accessible and resources available to assist you on your journey.

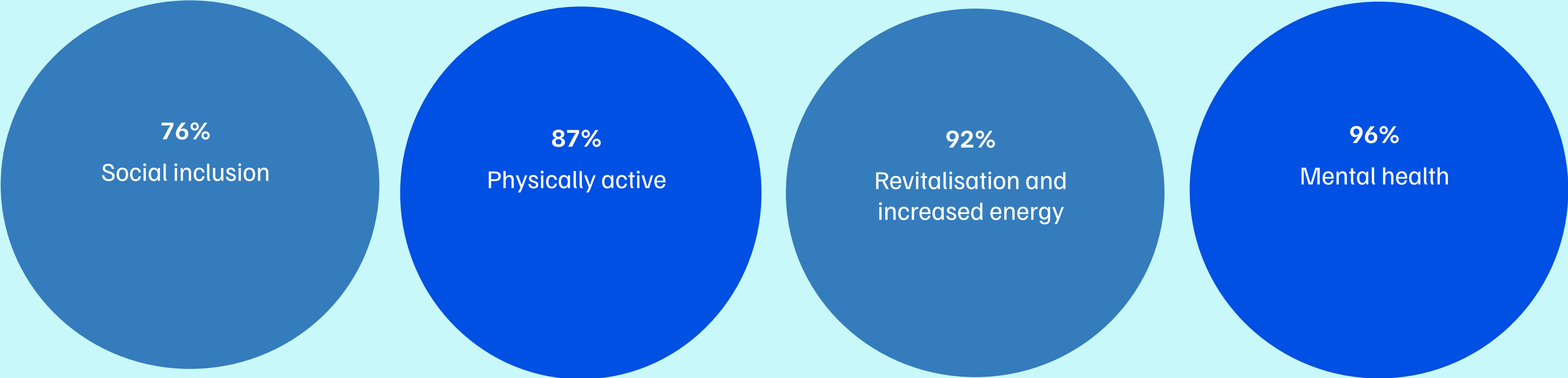
# Some Research

## U-Beach Tides of Change Research Study

### Barriers to beach access



### Benefits of beach access



# Accessibility is a journey



You can start with one component and build from there...



# Key elements to making your beaches accessible

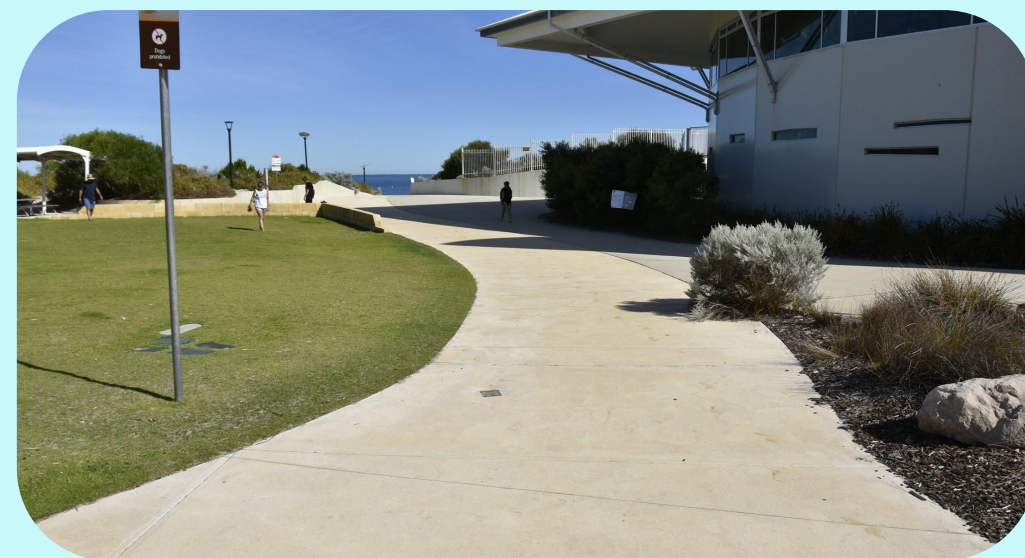
Well located  
accessible parking



Beach matting



Wide clear pathways



Beach wheelchairs



DDA compliant ramps  
with handrails



Accessible bathroom





# Key elements to making your beaches accessible

Alternatives to matting



Changing places facility



Accessible shade



Accessible shower



Accessible drinking water



Signage





# Other things to consider

- Beach wheelchair storage
- Other beach access equipment such as beach walkers
- Roles and responsibilities for maintenance and storage of equipment
- Booking process
- Training staff on disability awareness

# Accessible Beaches Australia can help

Accessible Beaches Australia is a Not-For-Profit organisation , registered with the ACNC.

We can guide you through the journey towards making your beaches accessible.

We also provide services to assist in this process:

Beach Audits

Consulting services

Letters of support for grant applications

Training

Listing your accessible beach on our directory

Contact us at [info@accessiblebeaches.com](mailto:info@accessiblebeaches.com) to see how we can help you.  
**Visit [accessiblebeaches.com](https://www.accessiblebeaches.com) to learn more about beach accessibility.**