

# Statistics



**The Aussie Hands  
Foundation Inc.**

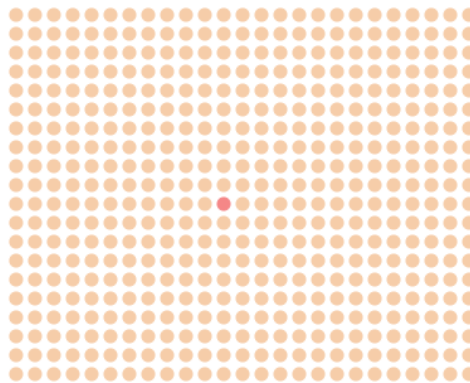
The term 'hand difference' includes a wide range of diversities in hands and/or arms. It can include upper limb differences that people are born with (congenital), and upper limb differences that are acquired throughout life.

The causes of congenital hand differences are multifactorial,<sup>1</sup> meaning that they can be caused by many different environmental and biological interactions. Most hand differences happen simply by chance.

Approximately

**1 in 500**

babies are born with a  
hand difference<sup>2</sup>



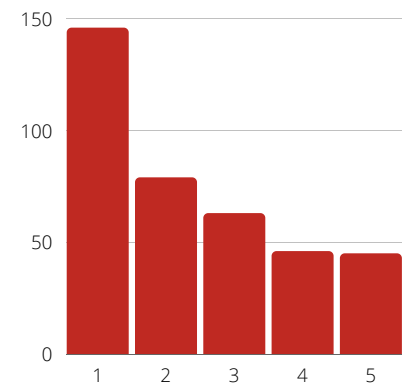
That's around

**600**

Australian babies  
per year!

## Five Common Diagnoses<sup>3</sup>

1. Radial polydactyly
2. Symbrachydactyly
3. Ulnar polydactyly
4. Simple syndactyly
5. Radial longitudinal deficiency



**1 in 5**

congenital hand differences are found  
during pregnancy<sup>3</sup>

**874** children are currently registered with  
the Australian Hand Difference Register<sup>3</sup>

**525** people with a hand difference are  
members of Aussie Hands<sup>4</sup>

#### REFERENCES

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2. Giele, H., Giele, C., Bower, C., & Allison, M. (2001). The incidence and epidemiology of congenital upper limb anomalies: A total population study. *The Journal of Hand Surgery*, 26(4), 628-634. <https://doi.org/10.1053/j.jhsu.2001.26121>
3. The Australian Hand Difference Register. (2020). AHDR Annual Report 2020. [https://www.mcric.edu.au/sites/default/files/media/ahdr\\_annual\\_report\\_2020\\_final.pdf](https://www.mcric.edu.au/sites/default/files/media/ahdr_annual_report_2020_final.pdf)
4. <https://www.aussiehands.org/>