



Quarterly Report

January to March 2022

Easy Read version



ndis

[ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

How to use this report



The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) wrote this report. When you see the word 'we', it means the NDIA.



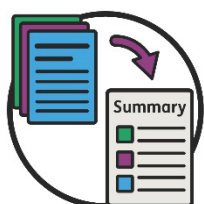
This report is written in an easy to read way.
We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold
Not bold

We wrote some important words in **bold**.
This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these bold words mean.
There is a list of these words on page 32.



This Easy Read report is a summary of another report. This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other report on our website.
www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/publications/quarterly-reports

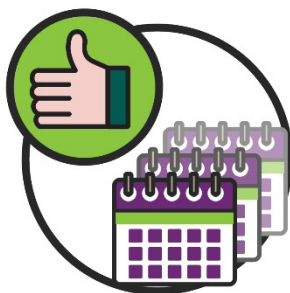


You can ask for help to read this report.
A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

What's in this report?

What is this report about?	4
Who took part in the NDIS?	7
What did participants say about the NDIS?	13
What supports do participants use?	17
Who did we work with?	21
How did we support participants?	25
Making sure the NDIS lasts a long time	28
More information	30
Word list	32

What is this report about?



We want to make sure the NDIS:

- works well
- lasts a long time.



We look at lots of **data** to make sure this happens.



When we talk about data, we mean:

- facts
- information
- records.

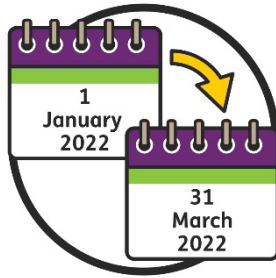


We write a report every 3 months.

3 months is a quarter of a year.

So we call our report a Quarterly Report.

This Quarterly Report is about what we did from:



- 1 January 2022
- to
- 31 March 2022.



In this report, we just say 'this quarter'.

Our Quarterly Report includes:



- the data we collected



- the information we shared



- how we worked with the community.



We give the Quarterly Report to the **minister** for disability in each:

- state
- territory.



A minister leads an area of the government.



We also share the Quarterly Report with the community.

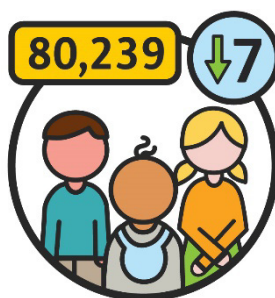
Who took part in the NDIS?



Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



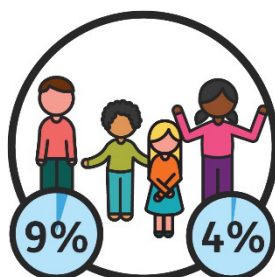
On 31 March 2022, the NDIS had 518,668 participants.



This included 80,239 children younger than 7.



We also look at how many people take part in the NDIS out of all Australians.



It's quite high for children who are 5–7 years old.

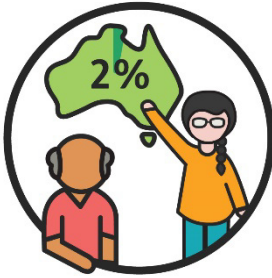
9% of boys this age take part in the NDIS.

And it's about 4% of girls.



It's a lot less for adults aged 30 years old.

About 1% of all Australians this age take part in the NDIS.



But it gets a bit higher for older people.

Just over 2% of people who are 64 years old take part in the NDIS.



19,556 participants joined the NDIS in this quarter.



In this quarter this included 8,700 children younger than 7.

In this quarter this also included:



- 1,784 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples



- 372 people who live very far away from cities and towns



- 1,799 people from **culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)** backgrounds.

CALD people:



- come from different cultures and backgrounds
- speak languages other than English.

Young people in residential aged care



Residential aged care is where older Australians live when they can't live in their home anymore.



Some people under the age of 65 need to live in residential aged care.

But this doesn't happen very often.



We want to support people under the age of 65 to move out of residential aged care if they want.



3,436 people under 65 lived in residential aged care by the end of December 2021.



133 people under 65 moved into residential aged care between October 2021 and December 2021.



You can go to the DSS website to find out more about how the Australian Government plans to support young people.



www.dss.gov.au/disability-and-carers/programmes-services/for-people-with-disability/younger-people-with-disability-in-residential-aged-care-initiative

Taking part in the community and work

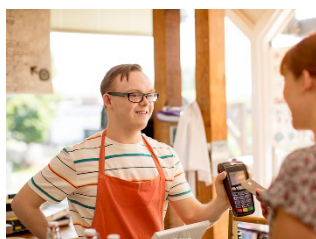


We looked at participants who have been in the NDIS for at least 2 years.

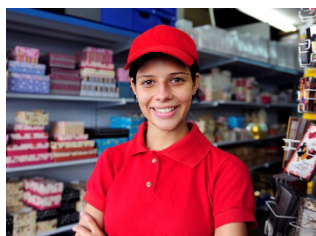


They took part in more community activities than they did before they joined the NDIS.

And more participants take part in these activities the longer they are part of the NDIS.



More participants aged 15 to 24 years old work and have jobs.



And more participants this age work and have jobs the longer they take part in the NDIS.

What did participants say about the NDIS?

In this quarter:



- 81% of participants said their experience of applying to take part in the NDIS was good or very good



- 86% of participants said their experience of making a plan was good or very good



- 72% of participants said their experience of **reviewing** their plan was good or very good.



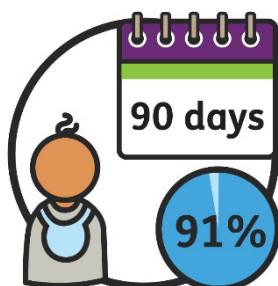
When you review something, you check to see what:

- works well
- needs to be better.

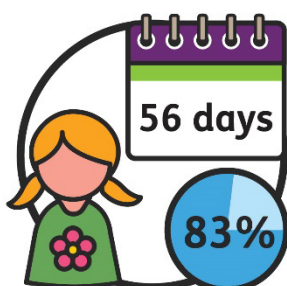
Our decisions



We made 100% of our decisions about who can join the NDIS within 21 days.



We made 91% of decisions about participants younger than 7 getting a plan within 90 days.



We made 83% of decisions about participants aged 7 years or older getting a plan within 56 days.



When participants asked us to review decisions we made, we reviewed 87% of those decisions within 60 days.

Reviewing our decisions



The **Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT)** is a government organisation that is separate to the NDIS.

They review our decisions about:

- who can join the NDIS
- NDIS plans.



More participants asked the AAT to review a decision we made.



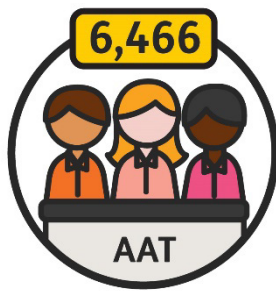
These decisions we made were about if supports were:

- reasonable – it is fair
- necessary – you need it.

We are learning from this so we can make our decisions:



- fairer
- the same every time.



Since the NDIS started, there have been 6,466 cases that:

- participants asked the AAT to review
- have been closed.



Most of the problems were fixed before the AAT needed to make a decision.



Only 182 cases needed a **hearing** with:

- us
- the participant who asked AAT to review our decision.



A hearing is an important meeting.

Everyone explains what they think should happen.

And then AAT makes a decision.

What supports do participants use?



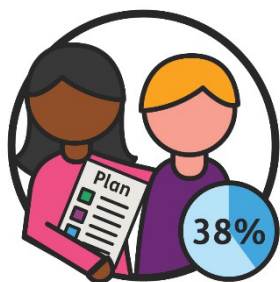
Funding is the money from your plan that pays for the supports and services you need.



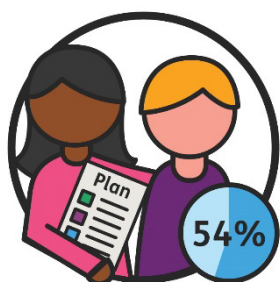
Over the last 2 years, funding has grown by 59%.



More participants use plan managers instead of the NDIS managing their plan.



38% of participants used a plan manager in March 2020.

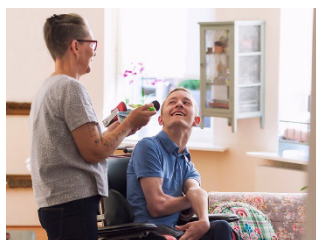


In March 2022, 54% of participants used a plan manager.

Supported Independent Living

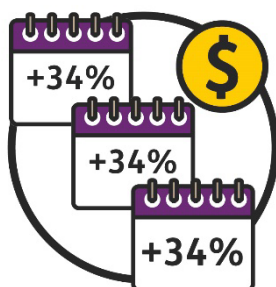


More participants receive funding for **Supported Independent Living (SIL)**.



SIL is help with day-to-day tasks around your home so you can:

- do things for yourself
- learn new skills.



Funding for SIL grew 34% each year for the past 3 years.



At the end of March 2019, 19,329 participants got SIL funding.



At the end of March 2022, 26,623 participants got SIL funding.

Home and living supports



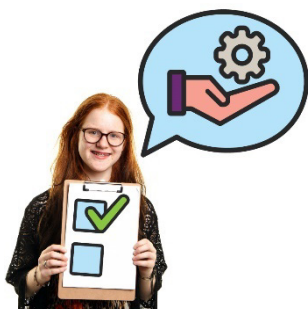
We are working to give you more options to get support at home.



We can also help you be **independent** in your own home.

When you are independent, you can do things:

- for yourself
- on your own.



Participants can ask us for home and living supports if the NDIS can help them work towards their goals.

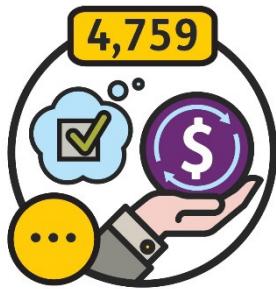


We will work out if these supports are:

- reasonable
- fair.



This quarter we made decisions about 4,990 applications for home and living supports.



Another 4,759 applications were still waiting at the end of the quarter.

They might be waiting for:

- a decision
- changes to funding.

Who did we work with?



The **Independent Advisory Council (IAC)** is a group of people who help us understand what people with disability need.

This quarter, the IAC gave us advice about:



- making sure the NDIS works well for everyone



- supporting participants better



- supporting participants who are getting older.



We also created the Co-design Advisory Group.



The Co-design Advisory Group includes people from different organisations that speak up for people with disability.

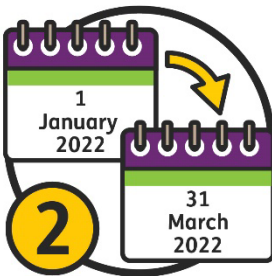
This group helps us understand:



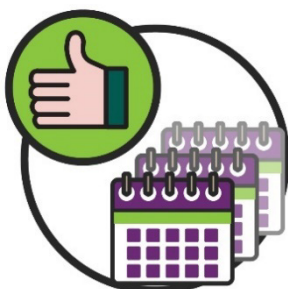
- when we should work together with people with disability



- how we should work together with people with disability.



They met 2 times in this quarter.



We also want to work with the community to make sure the NDIS:

- works well
- lasts a long time.



The Co-design Advisory Group shared their experiences with us.

We:



- listened to what the group told us



- included their ideas in our Engagement Framework – a plan for how things should work.

Our Engagement Framework talks about how we will:



- work with the community
- listen to participants
- make decision-making better.



As part of the Framework, we created 4 other groups. They will help us make sure the Framework works well.

The groups will focus on:



- joining the NDIS



- home and living supports



- keeping participants safe



- supported decision making.

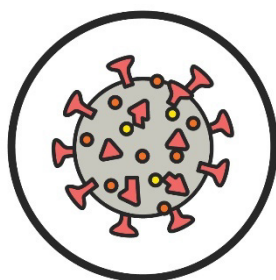


You can find the Engagement Framework on our website.

www.ndis.gov.au/community/have-your-say

How did we support participants?

COVID-19



COVID-19 was spreading very quickly at the end of 2021.



We supported participants and NDIS workers to get a COVID-19 **vaccine**.



A vaccine is medicine that:

- helps people fight a virus if they come in contact with it
- can stop people from getting very sick from the virus.



We helped people book their vaccine appointment through our call centre.

We are also providing funding to help with:



- the extra cost to organise a vaccine appointment



- personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks and gloves



- extra cleaning in a participant's home if someone has COVID-19



- buying **Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs)**.



A RAT is a test you can do yourself to find out if you have COVID-19.

Sharing information



We shared reports about how participants' lives have changed since they joined the NDIS.



You can find an Easy Read version on our website.

<https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/participant-outcomes-report>



We shared lots of data about how well the NDIS is working.

We also shared information about:



- the goals participants reach

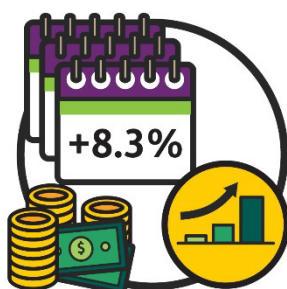


- what happens in the NDIS



- what participants say about the NDIS.

Making sure the NDIS lasts a long time



In this quarter, the funding in plans has grown by 8.3% each year.



This is much lower than other quarters at the start of the year.



We write another report that we share each year.

It's called the Annual Financial Sustainability Report (AFSR).



The AFSR uses data from the past 8 years.

This is how long we have had the NDIS now.



We use that data to work out how much the NDIS will cost in the future.

The AFSR says the NDIS will have:



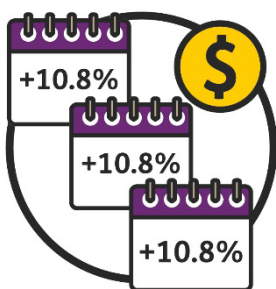
- 670,400 participants at the end of June 2025



- 859,300 participants at the end of June 2030.



This is more than we expected.



Payments have grown by 10.8% every year:

- for the past 3 years
- from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022.



You can read an Easy Read version of the AFSR on our website.

[www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/publications/
annual-financial-sustainability-reports](http://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/publications/annual-financial-sustainability-reports)

More information

For more information about this report,
please contact us.



www.ndis.gov.au



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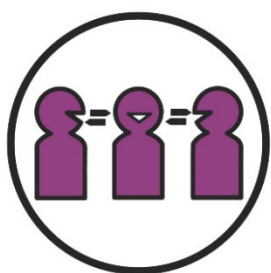
Support to talk to us



You can talk to us online using our webchat feature at the top of our website.

www.ndis.gov.au

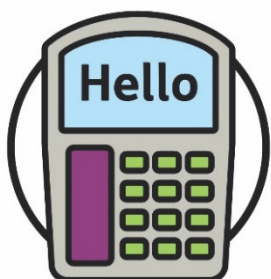
If you speak a language other than English, you can call:



Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

131 450

If you have a speech or hearing impairment, you can call:



TTY

1800 555 677



Speak and Listen

1800 555 727



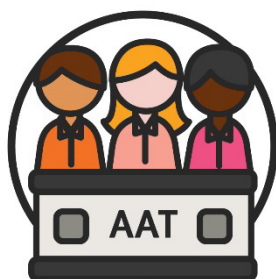
National Relay Service

133 677

www.relayservice.gov.au

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT)

The AAT is a government organisation that:

- reviews decisions about the NDIS
- makes their own decisions.



Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)

CALD people:

- come from different cultures and backgrounds
- speak languages other than English.



Data

When we talk about data, we mean:

- facts
- information
- records.



Funding

Funding is the money from your plan that pays for the supports and services you need.



Hearing

A hearing is an important meeting.

Everyone explains what they think should happen.

And then AAT makes a decision.



Independent

When you are independent, you can do things:

- for yourself
- on your own.



Independent Advisory Council (IAC)

The IAC is a group of people who help us understand what people with disability need.



Minister

A minister leads an area of the government.



Participants

Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs)

A RAT is a test you can do yourself to find out if you have COVID-19.



Residential aged care

Residential aged care is where older Australians live when they can't live in their home anymore.

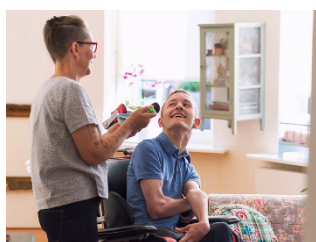
Review



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- needs to be better.

Supported Independent Living (SIL)



SIL is help with day-to-day tasks around your home so you can:

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- learn new skills.

Vaccine



A vaccine is medicine that:

- helps people fight a virus if they come in contact with it
- can stop people from getting very sick from the virus.



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