
COAG

Disability Reform Council Quarterly Performance Report

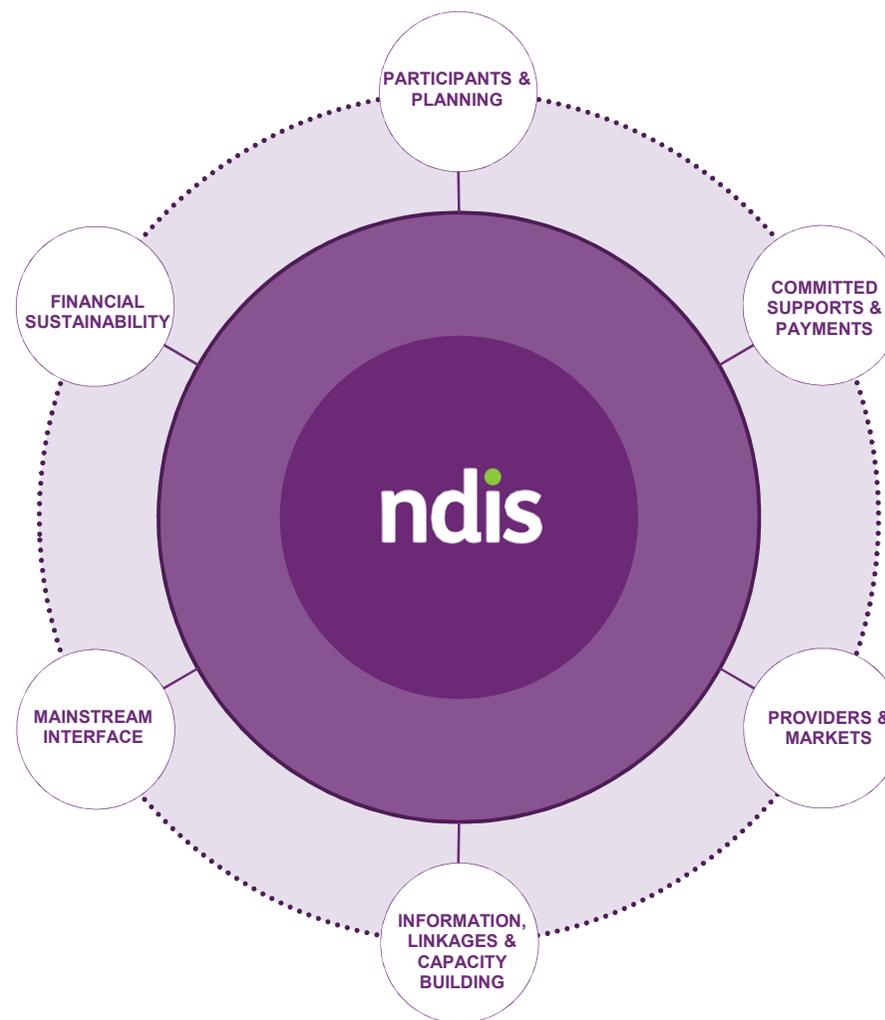
Northern Territory - 30 September 2019



Overview

This report is a summary of the performance and operations of the NDIA in Northern Territory for Quarter 1 of 2019-20 (01 July 2019 - 30 September 2019).

It is the thirteenth quarterly report during the NDIS Transition period, which commenced on 1 July 2016.



Summary

Participants and Planning

An additional 281 active participants received plans this quarter (excluding ECEI).

At 30 September 2019, plans approved and ECEI referrals represent 50% of scheme to date bilateral estimate.

Participant satisfaction has increased in the quarter, with 100% of participants surveyed rating their satisfaction with the Agency's planning process as either 'Good' or 'Very Good'.

Committed Supports and Payments

The following amounts have been paid to providers and participants each financial year:

- \$1.7m in 2014-15,
- \$4.2m in 2015-16,
- \$11.6m in 2016-17,
- \$66.3m in 2017-18,
- \$131.2m in 2018-19,
- \$35.4m in 2019-20 to date.

Overall,

- 82% of committed supports were utilised in 2014-15,
- 72% in 2015-16,
- 58% in 2016-17,
- 66% in 2017-18,
- 64% in 2018-19.

The 2018-19 and 2019-20 experience is still emerging.

The lower rates of utilisation since 2016-17 reflect the increased amount of participants who received their first plans in these years. Participants tend to utilise less of their first plan, compared with their second and subsequent plans, as it takes time to familiarise with the NDIS and decide which supports to use.

Providers and Markets

There were 374 active providers as at 30 September 2019.

19% of active providers are individuals/sole traders.

Note: The new NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NQSC) commenced to regulate quality and safeguarding of NDIS supports and services. The NQSC has been active in all States and Territories across Australia from 1 July 2019, with the exception of WA which will commence from 1 July 2020.

Mainstream Interface

97% of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1 access mainstream services.

Note: Jurisdiction is defined by the current residing address of the participant. This is a change from the previous quarter, where the jurisdiction was based on where the participant resided when they had their initial plan approved. This change may affect comparability to the prior quarter.

Participants and Planning

The NDIS in Northern Territory continues to grow with 281 additional active participants with approved plans this quarter.

In total, over 2,600 participants are being supported by the NDIS in Northern Territory, with 31% receiving support for the first time.

Summary

The NDIS has been transitioning to full-scheme according to phasing schedules bilaterally agreed by State/Territory and Commonwealth governments.

Key Statistics

2,622

PARTICIPANTS ARE BEING SUPPORTED BY THE NDIS IN NORTHERN TERRITORY, INCLUDING CHILDREN IN THE ECEI PROGRAM

281

INCREASE IN ACTIVE IN 2019-20 Q1, EXCLUDING CHILDREN IN THE ECEI PROGRAM (REPRESENTING 12% GROWTH SINCE LAST QUARTER)

40

CHILDREN ARE RECEIVING INITIAL SUPPORTS IN THE ECEI PROGRAM*

817

PEOPLE ARE BEING SUPPORTED FOR THE FIRST TIME

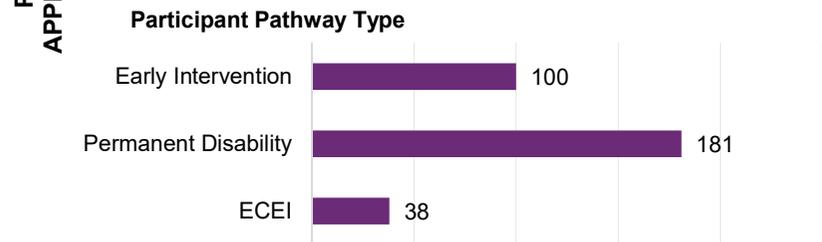
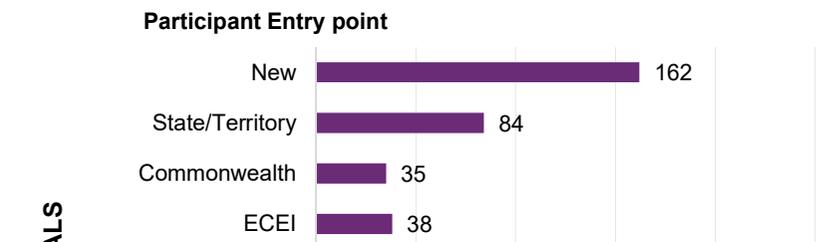
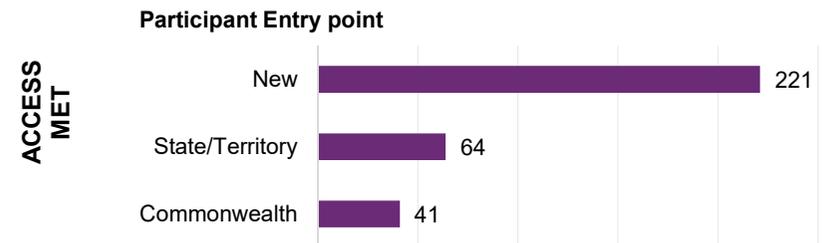
*Note: The definition used to report on children being supported in the ECEI gateway has changed compared with the last quarter due to improvements in data collection.

Quarterly Intake

2019-20 Q1

Of the 326 participants active and deemed 'eligible' this quarter 68% were 'New' participants (i.e. had not transitioned from an existing State/Territory or Commonwealth program).

Of the 281 plan approvals this quarter, 58% were 'New' participants (i.e. had not transitioned from an existing State/Territory or Commonwealth program), 64% entered with a permanent disability.



*Note: The definition used to report on children being supported in the ECEI gateway has changed compared with the last quarter due to improvements in data collection. This is the result of the introduction of new ICT capability. While the total number of children being supported in the ECEI gateway is accurate, the information on the timing of supports provided will improve going forward. Therefore, the results based on those who commenced receiving supports in the quarter should be treated with caution.

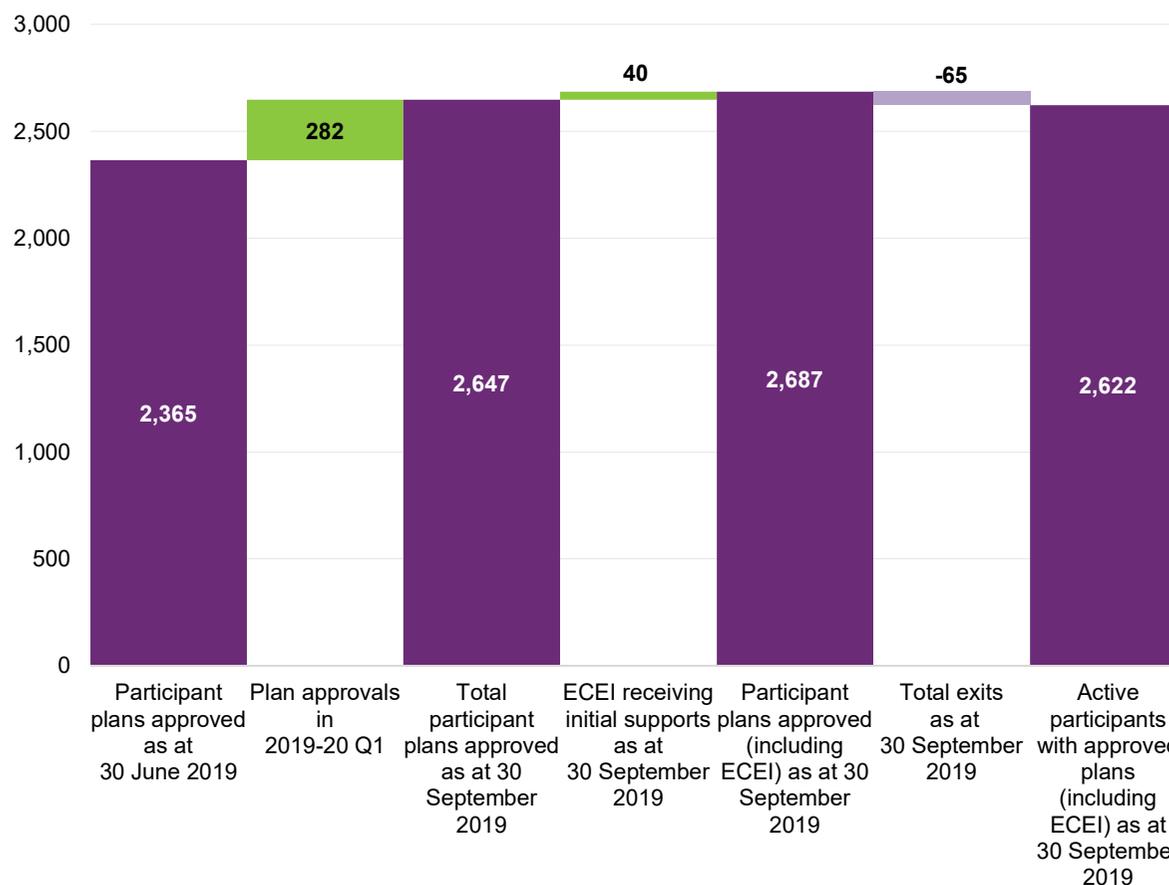
Quarterly Intake Detail

Plan approval numbers have increased from 2,365 at the end of 2018-19 Q4 to 2,647 by the end of 2019-20 Q1, an increase of 282 approvals.

At the end of the quarter, 40 children are receiving initial supports in the ECEI gateway.

Overall, 65 participants with approved plans have exited the Scheme, resulting in 2,622 active participants (including ECEI) as at 30 September 2019.

Change in plan approvals between 30 June 2019 and 30 September 2019



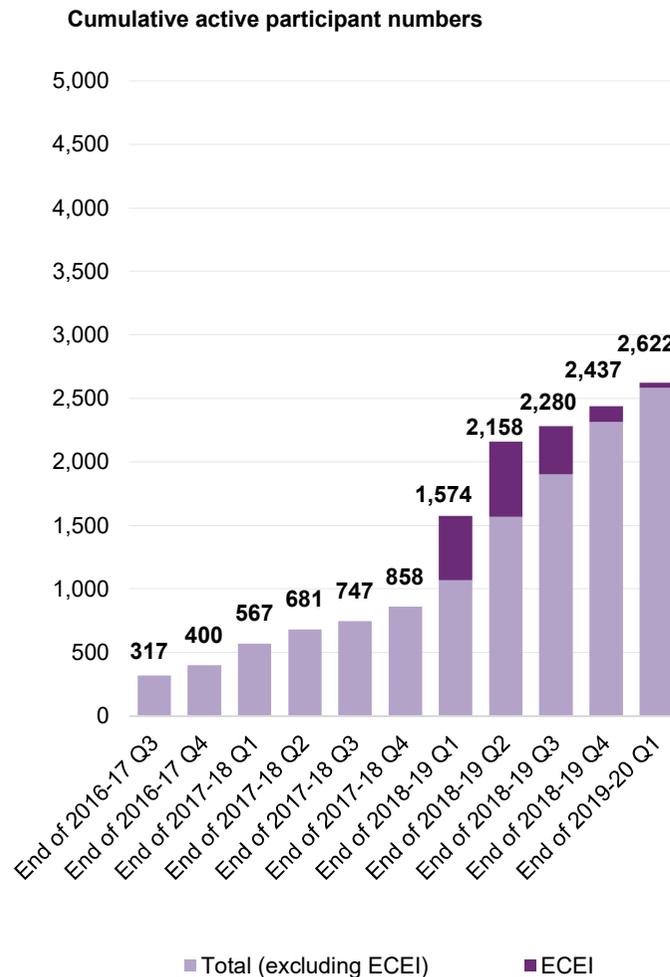
There were 501 plan reviews this quarter. This figure relates to all participants who have entered the scheme.

Cumulative Position

At the end of 2019-20 Q1, the cumulative total number of active participants that are receiving support is 2,622 (including 40 children receiving initial supports in the ECEI gateway). Of these, 1,504 transitioned from an existing State/Territory program, 261 transitioned from an existing Commonwealth program and 817 participants have received support for the first time.

Overall, since 1 July 2013, there have been 3,453 people with access decisions.

Cumulative position reporting is inclusive of trial participants for the reported period and represents participants who were active at the end of each period.



Note: The definition used to report on children being supported in the ECEI gateway has changed compared with the last quarter due to improvements in data collection.

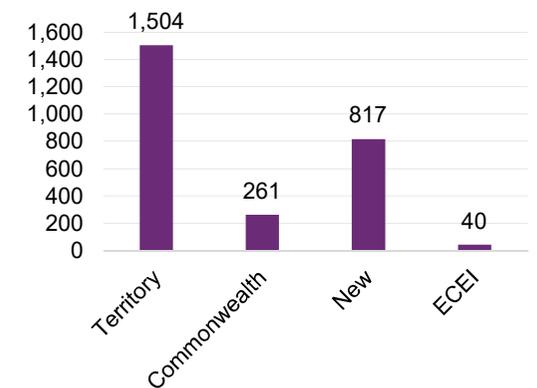
50%

of scheme to date bilateral estimate

2,582

active participants to date; 2,622 including ECEI confirmed

Active Participants by participant referral pathway



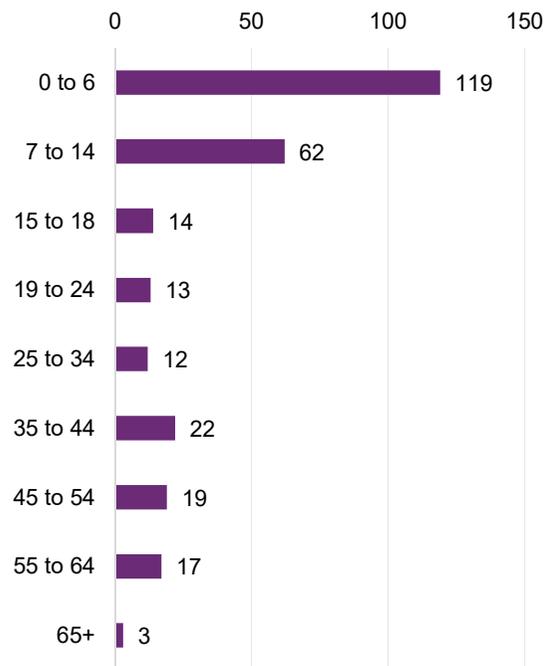
Participant Profiles by Age Group

These bar charts show the demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1, compared with plan approvals as at 30 June 2019, by age group.

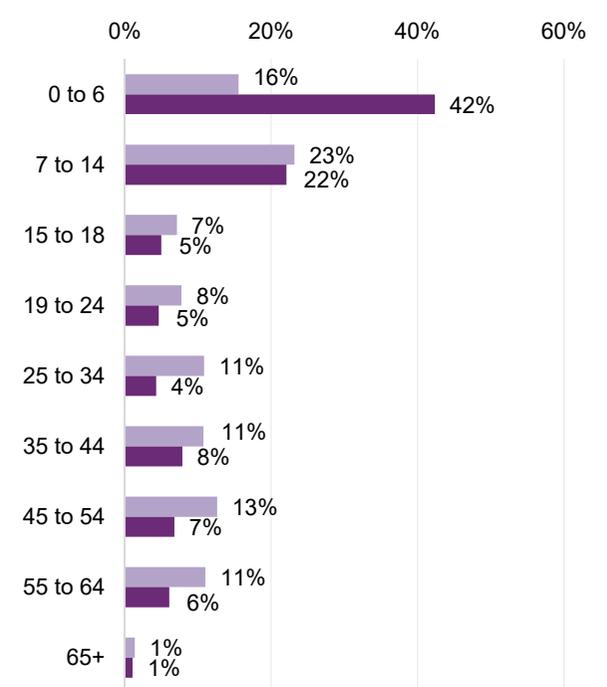
42% of participants entering in this quarter are aged 0 to 6 years, compared to 16% in prior quarters.

This is driven by a relatively high proportion of 'new' participants entering this quarter compared to prior quarters.

Active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1 by age group



% of active participants with a plan approved by age group



■ % of active participants with a plan approved in prior quarters
 ■ % of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1

Note: The age eligibility requirements for the NDIS are based on the age as at the access request date. Participants with their initial plan approved aged 65+ have turned 65 since their access request was received.

Participant Profiles by Disability Group

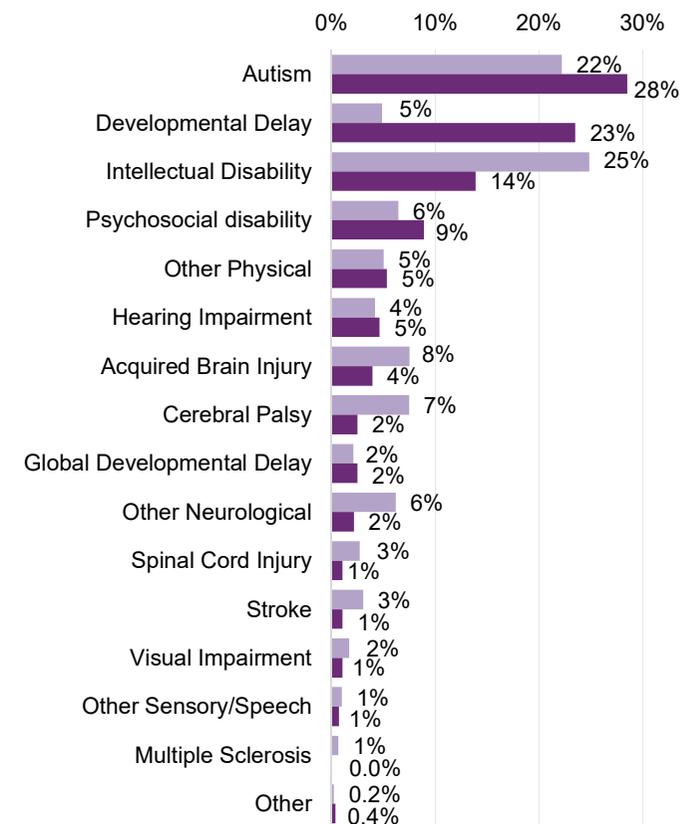
These bar charts show the demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1, compared with plan approvals as at 30 June 2019, by disability group.

28% of participants entering this quarter have a primary disability group of Autism, compared to 22% in previous quarters. Further, 23% of participants entering this quarter have a primary disability group of Developmental Delay compared to 5% in previous quarters. These increases were mainly driven by the large proportion of participants aged 0 to 6 entering in this quarter.

Active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1 by disability group



% of active participants with a plan approved by disability group



■ % of active participants with a plan approved in prior quarters
 ■ % of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1

Note 1: Of the 39 active participants identified as having an intellectual disability, 6 (15%) has Down syndrome.

Note 2: Since 2017-18 Q1 Developmental Delay and Global Developmental Delay have been reported separately to the Intellectual Disability group.

Participant Profiles by Level of Function

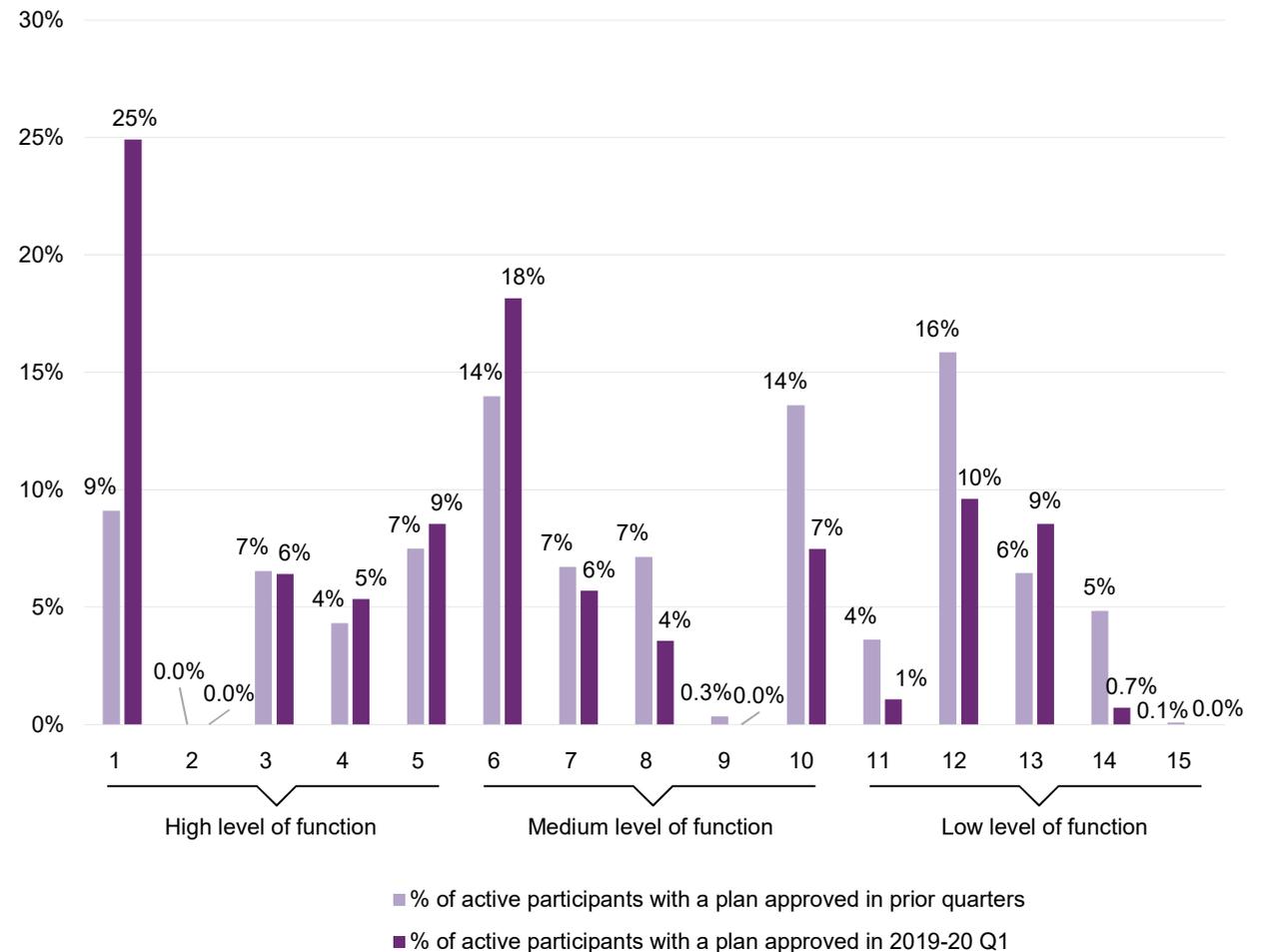
These bar charts show the demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1, compared with plan approvals as at 30 June 2019, by level of function.

For participants with a plan approval in the current quarter:

- 45% of active participants had a relatively high level of function
- 35% of active participants had a relatively moderate level of function
- 20% had a relatively low level of function

These relativities are within the NDIS participant population, and not comparable to the general population.

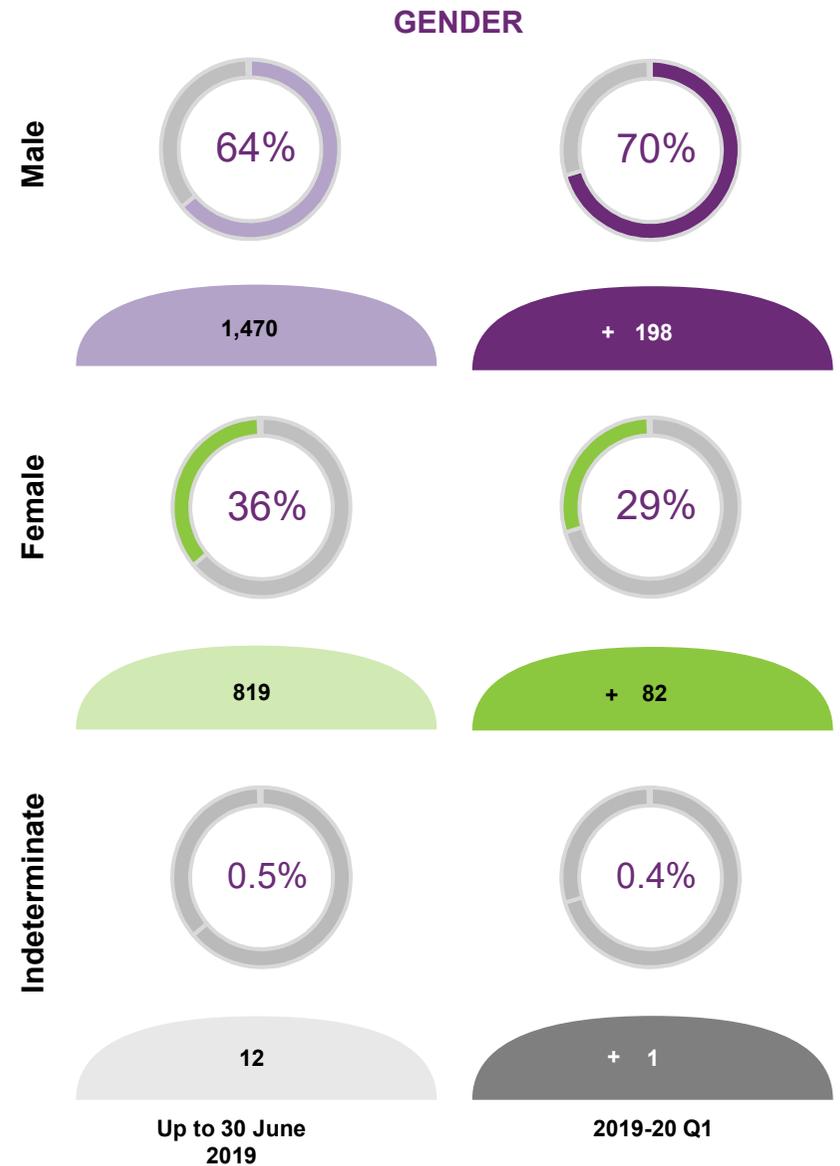
% of active participants with a plan approved by level of function



Participant Profiles by Gender

These charts show the demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1, compared with plan approvals as at 30 June 2019, by gender.

The majority of participants are males. Consistent with population data, this is driven by autism and developmental delay where prevalence rates are higher for males compared with females.



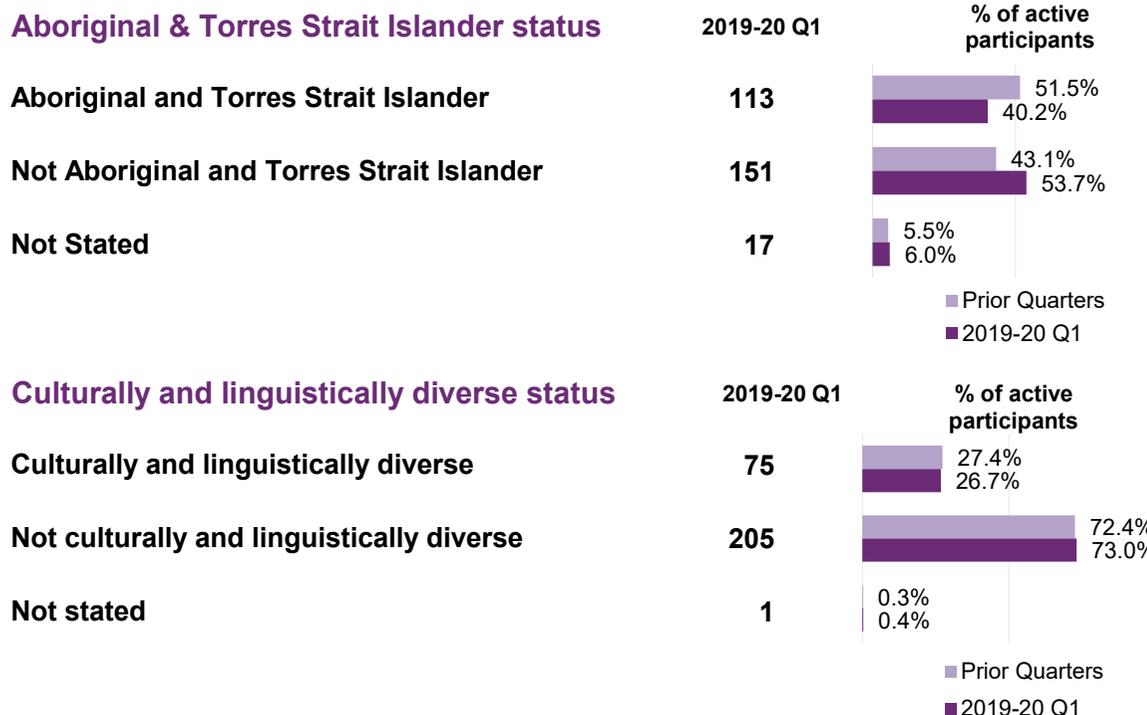


Participant Profiles

These bar charts show other demographic profiles of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1, compared with plan approvals as at 30 June 2019.

Of the participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1:

- 40.2% were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, compared with 51.5% in previous periods combined.
- 26.7% were culturally and linguistically diverse, compared with 27.4% in previous periods combined.
- There were 46 participants in residential aged care. 39 of them were under the age of 65 years.

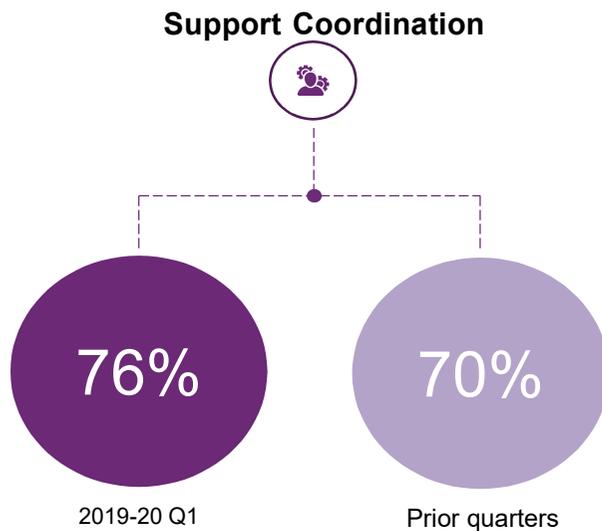


*Note: The proportion of participants with a 'Not Stated' response regarding Indigenous status has increased compared with previous periods, with an offsetting reduction to the proportion of participants with a 'No' response. This is the result of a correction to the data and has no impact on the proportion of Indigenous participants identified.

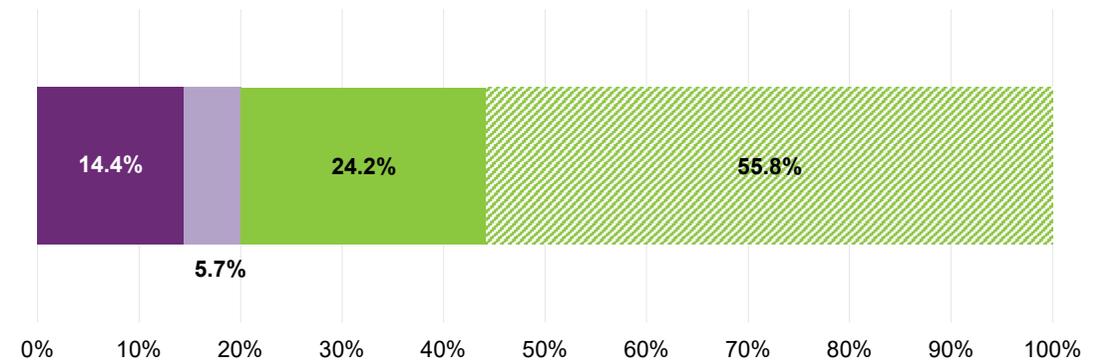
Plan Management Support Coordination

The proportion of participants electing to fully or partly self-manage their plan was lower in 2019-20 Q1 at 15%, compared with 20% in previous quarters combined.

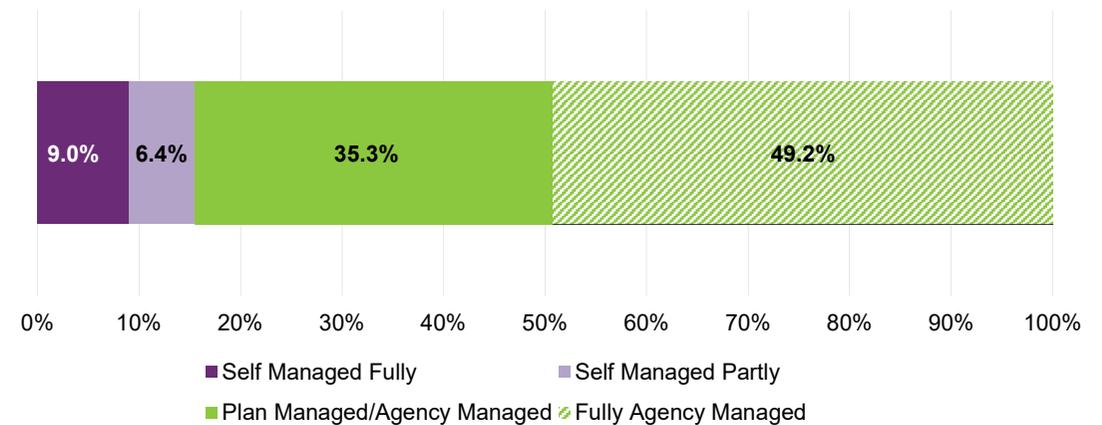
76% of participants who have had a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1 have support coordination in their plan, compared to 70% in previous quarters combined.



Prior quarters (transition only)



2019-20 Q1



Plan Activation

Plan activation refers to the amount of time between a participant's initial plan being approved, and the date the participant first receives support. In-kind supports are included.

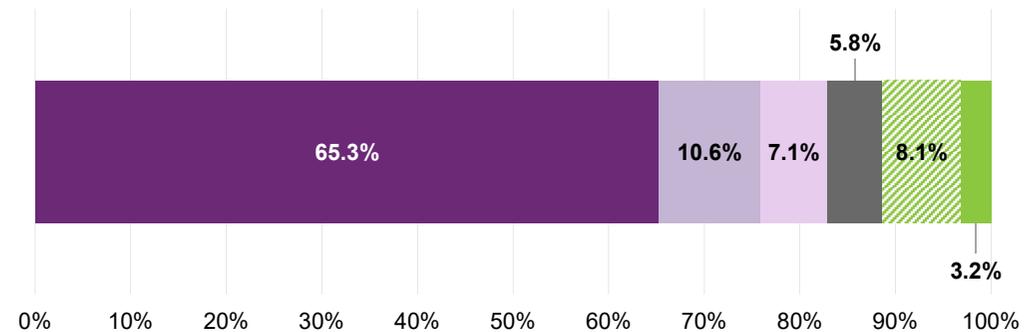
The percentage of participants who activated plans within 90 days of initial plan approval was:

- 83% of participants entering in 2018-19 Q3
- 83% of participants entering in previous quarters combined

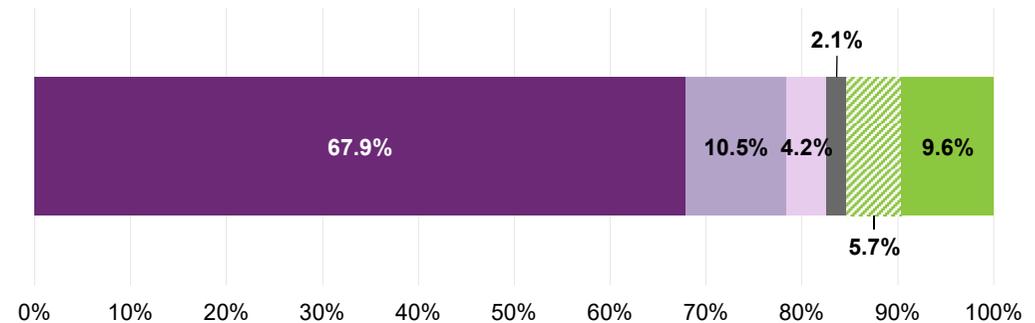
Plan activation figures are approximations based on payment data. As there is a lag between when the support is provided to a participant, and the payment being made, these statistics are a conservative estimate; it is likely plan activation is faster than presented.

Duration to Plan activation for participants with initial plan approval

Prior Quarters (Transition Only)



2018-19 Q3



- Less than 30 days
- 30 to 59 days
- 60 to 89 days
- 90 to 119 days
- 120 days and over
- No payments

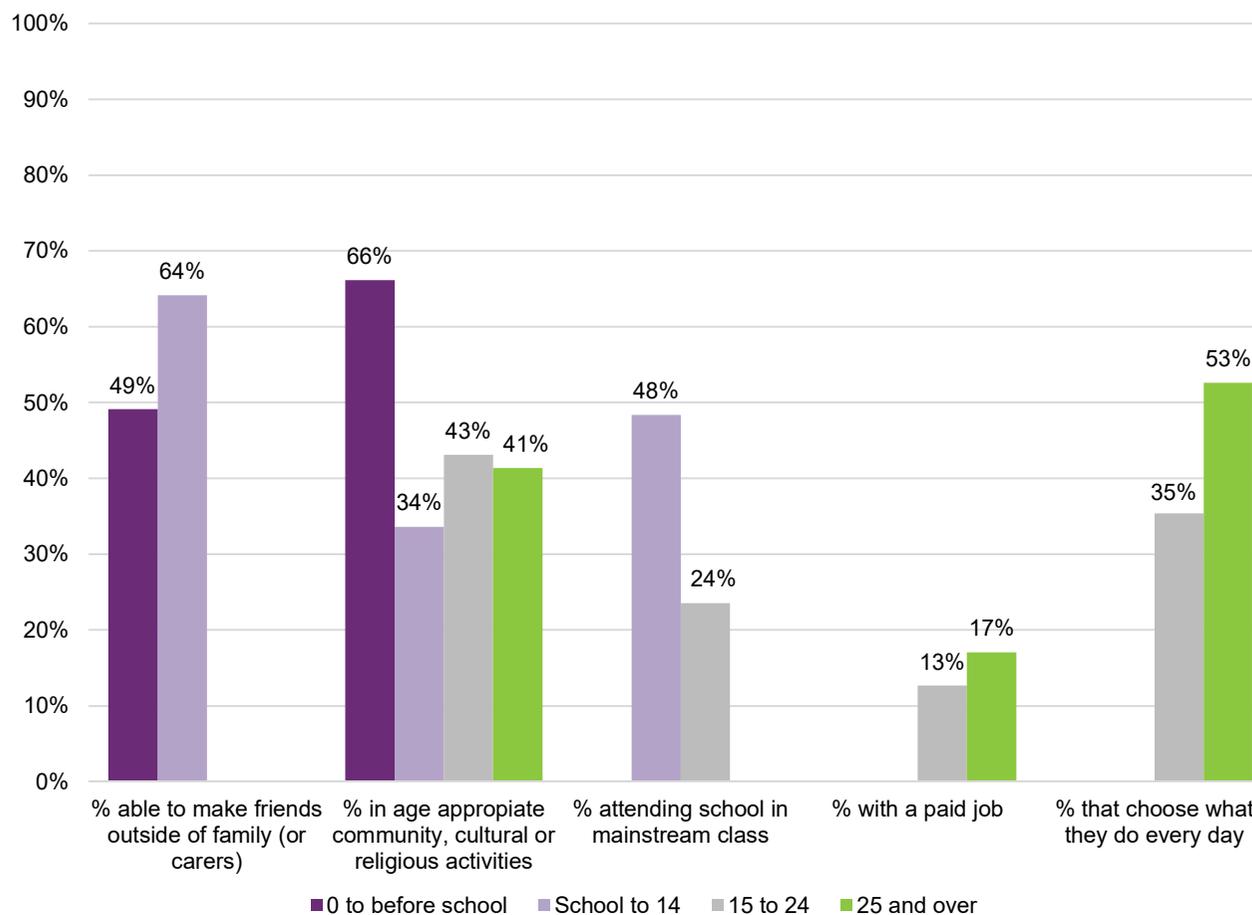
Note: Participants with initial plans approved after the end of 2018-19 Q3 have been excluded from the charts. They are relatively new and it is too early to examine their durations to activation.

Participant Outcomes

This information on participant outcomes has been collected from 100% of participants who have received their initial plan since 1 July 2016 (when they entered the scheme).

- 64% of participants from school age to 14 are able to make friends outside of family/carers, compared to 49% of participants aged 0 to before school
- 66% of participants aged 0 to before school are engaged in age appropriate community, cultural or religious activities, compared to 34% to 43% for other age groups
- 48% of participants from school age to 14 attend school in a mainstream class, compared to 24% of participants aged 15 to 24
- 17% of participants aged 25 and over have a paid job, compared to 13% of participants aged 15 to 24
- 53% of participants aged 25 and over choose what they do every day, compared to 35% of participants aged 15 to 24

Selected key baseline indicators for participants

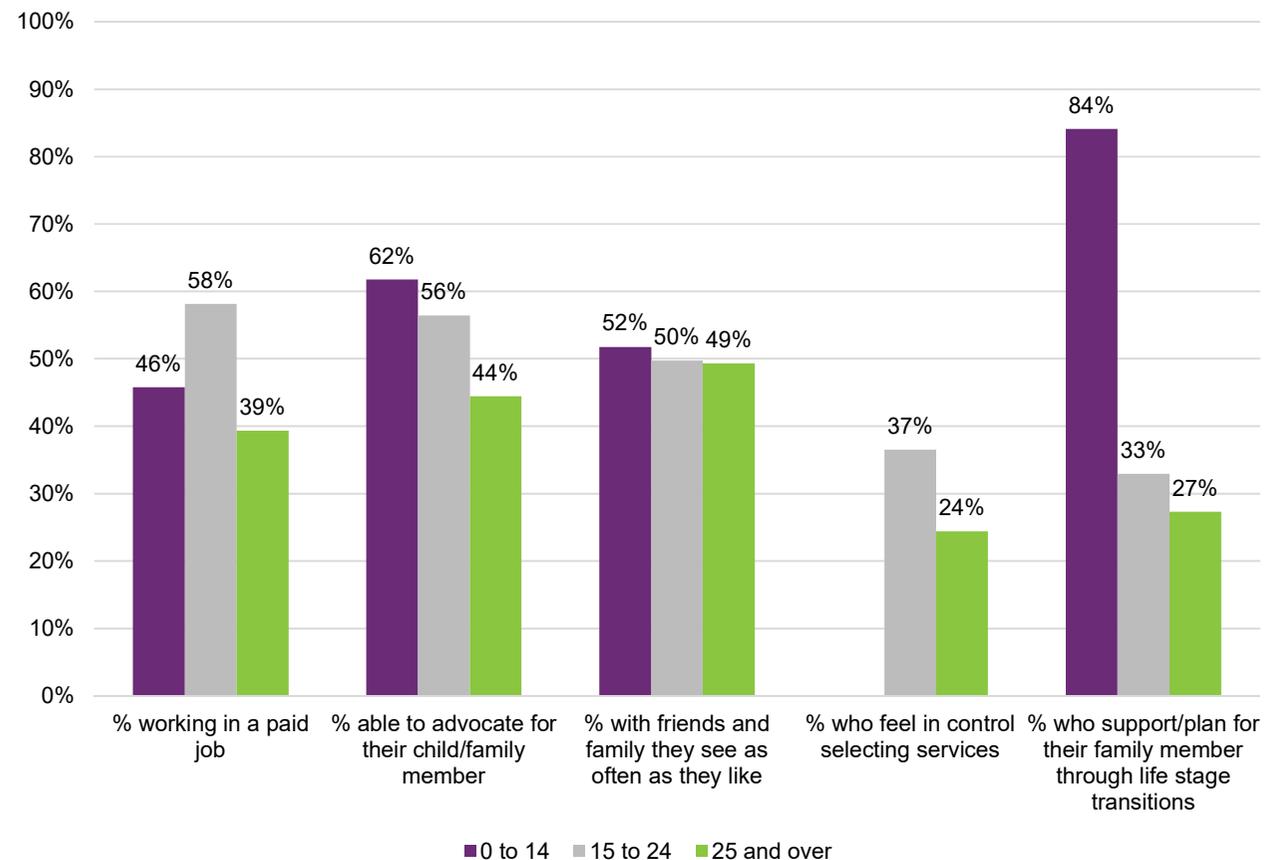


Family/Carers Outcomes

The percentage of participants' families/carers when they entered the Scheme (baseline indicators):

- working in a paid job was highest for participants aged 15 to 24 (58%)
- able to advocate for their child/family member was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (62%)
- who have friends and family they can see as often as they like was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (52%)
- who feel in control selecting services was highest for participants aged 15 to 24 (37%)
- who support/plan for their family member through life stage transitions was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (84%)

Selected key baseline indicators for families and carers of participants



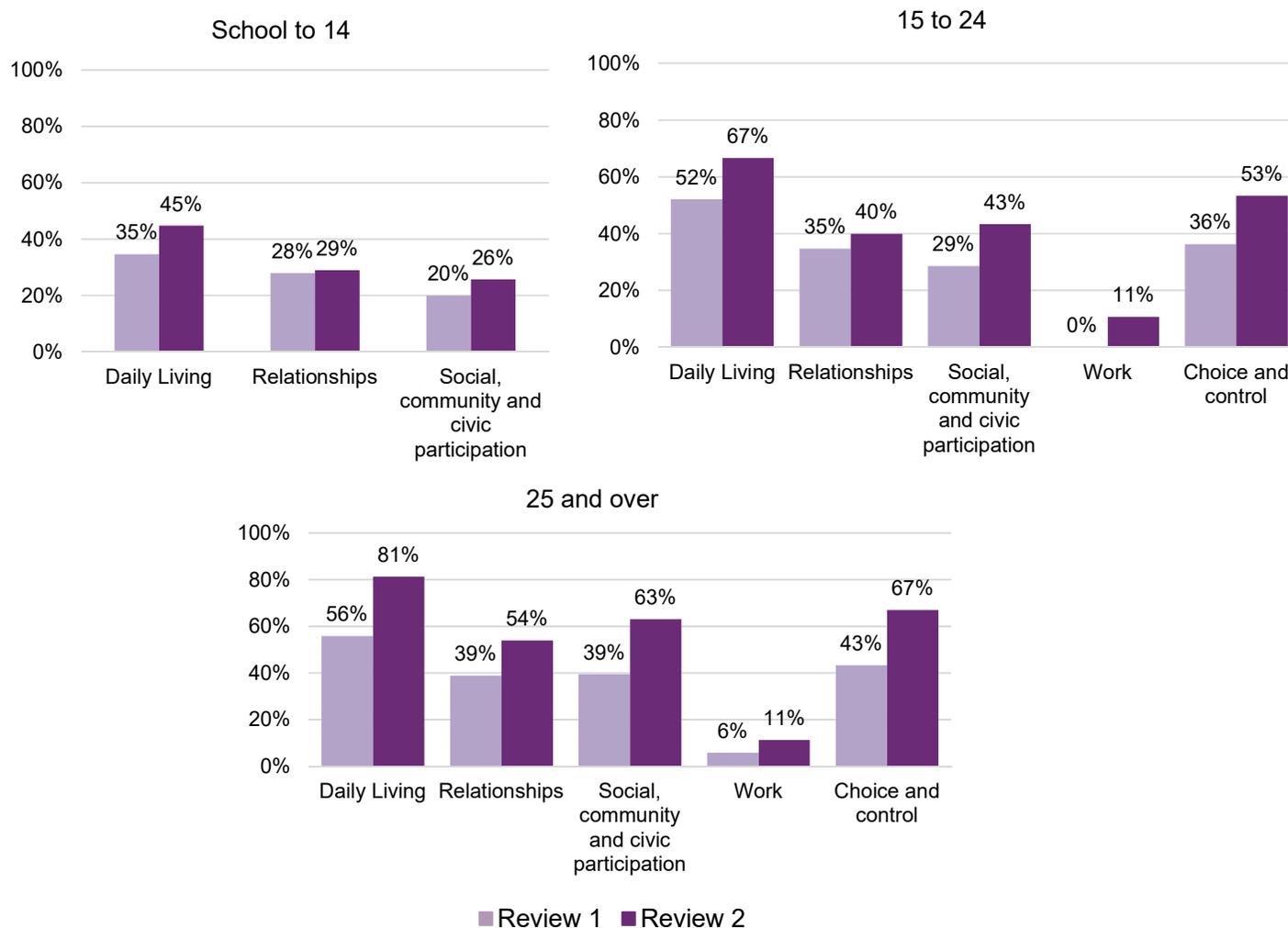
Has the NDIS helped? Participants

This data reflects participants' perceptions on whether engagement with the NDIS has helped them.

The NDIA asks the question 'Has the NDIS helped?' to individuals when they enter and at their subsequent plan reviews. These charts summarise the responses for participants who entered the Scheme between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2017 and have had a first and second plan review to date.

In general, participants' perceptions of whether the NDIS has helped improved from first review to second review in the Scheme. The greatest improvements were experienced by participants in the age group 25 and over.

"Has the NDIS helped?" questions for participants



Note: There is insufficient data for the 0 to before school participant age group.

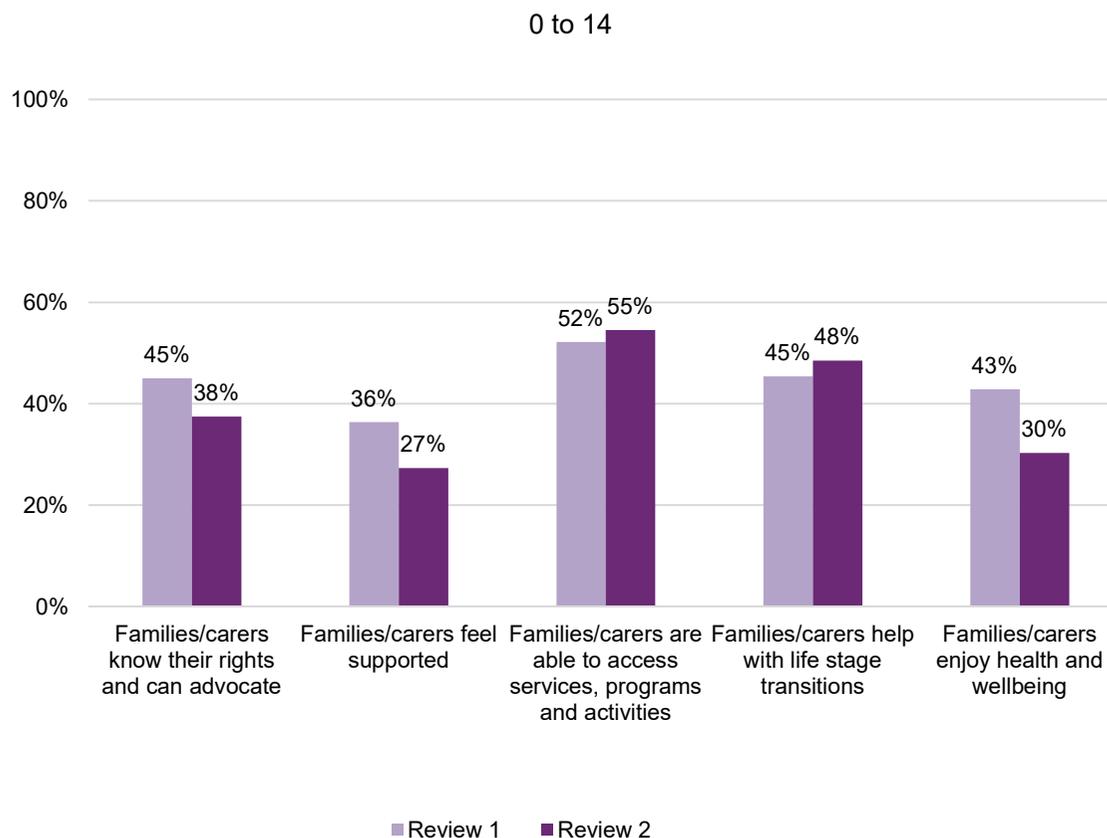
Has the NDIS helped? Family/Carers

This data reflects families and carers' perceptions on whether engagement with the NDIS has helped them.

The NDIA asks the question 'Has the NDIS helped?' to families and carers of participants when they enter and at their subsequent plan reviews. These charts summarise the responses for participants who entered the Scheme between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2017 and have had a first and second plan review to date.

Family and carer's perceptions of whether the NDIS has helped has improved from first review to second review regarding access to services, programs and activities and helping with life stage transitions.

"Has the NDIS helped?" questions for families and carers of participants



Note: There is insufficient data for the 15 and over participant age group.

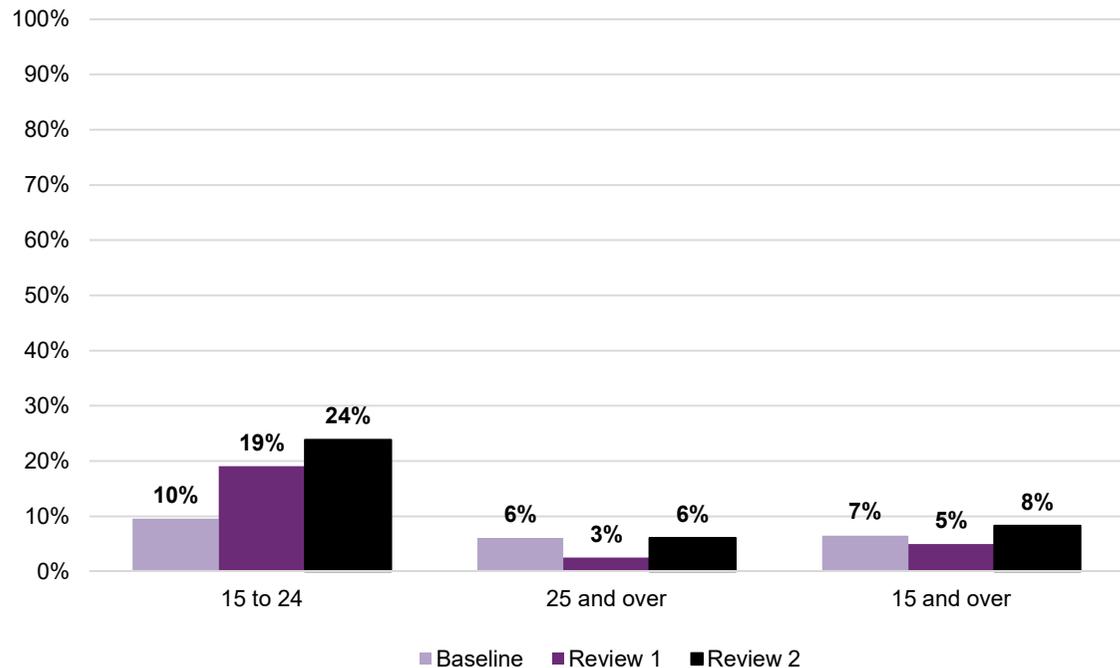
Participants in Work

The NDIA is acutely aware of the benefits that employment brings to participants and tracks employment outcomes to see whether the NDIS has helped participants to find paid work.

Baseline measures on employment are collected as a participant enters the Scheme and at their subsequent plan reviews. The chart relates to participants who have entered the Scheme between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2017, and have had a first and second plan review to date.

The percentage of participants in paid work has increased across plan reviews for those aged 15 to 24 and remained stable for those aged 25 and over.

NDIS participants in paid employment, by age group - participants with first and second plan reviews



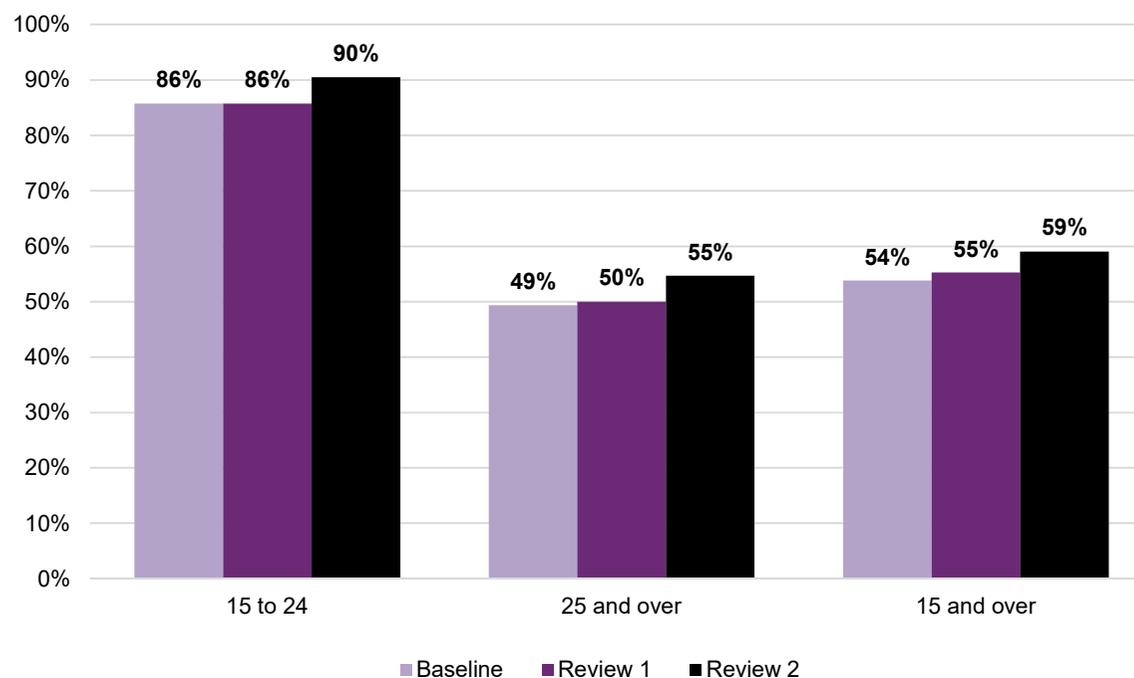
Participants involved in community and social activities

The number of participants engaging in community and social activities is one of the key measures for ensuring quality experiences and outcomes for participants.

Baseline measures on engaging in community and social activities are collected as a participant enters the Scheme and at their subsequent plan reviews. The chart relates to participants who have entered the Scheme between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2017, and have had a first and second plan review to date.

Across all age groups, there was an increase in the percentage of participants engaged in community and social activities.

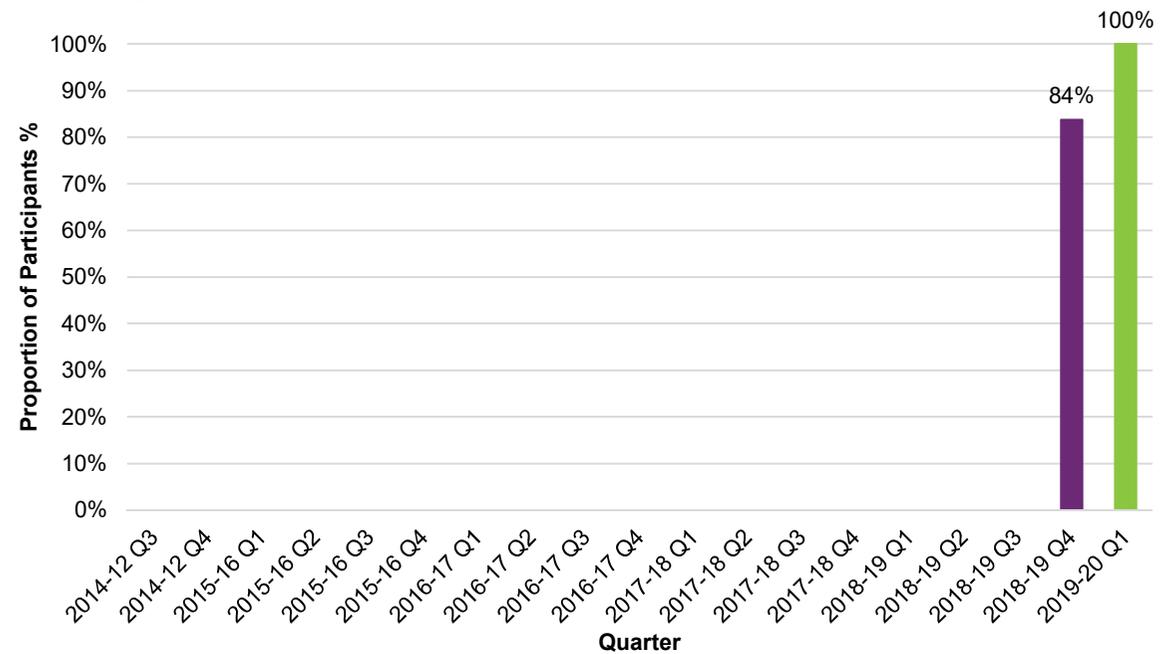
NDIS Participants participating in social activities in their community, by age group - participants with first and second plan reviews.



Participant Satisfaction

100% of participants rated their satisfaction with the Agency's planning process as either good or very good in the current quarter.

Proportion of participants describing satisfaction with the Agency's planning process as good or very good - by quarter



Note: Participant satisfaction results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.



Participant Satisfaction - New Survey Method

A new participant satisfaction survey has been developed to better record the experience of NDIS participants and their families and carers at different stages of the participant pathway.

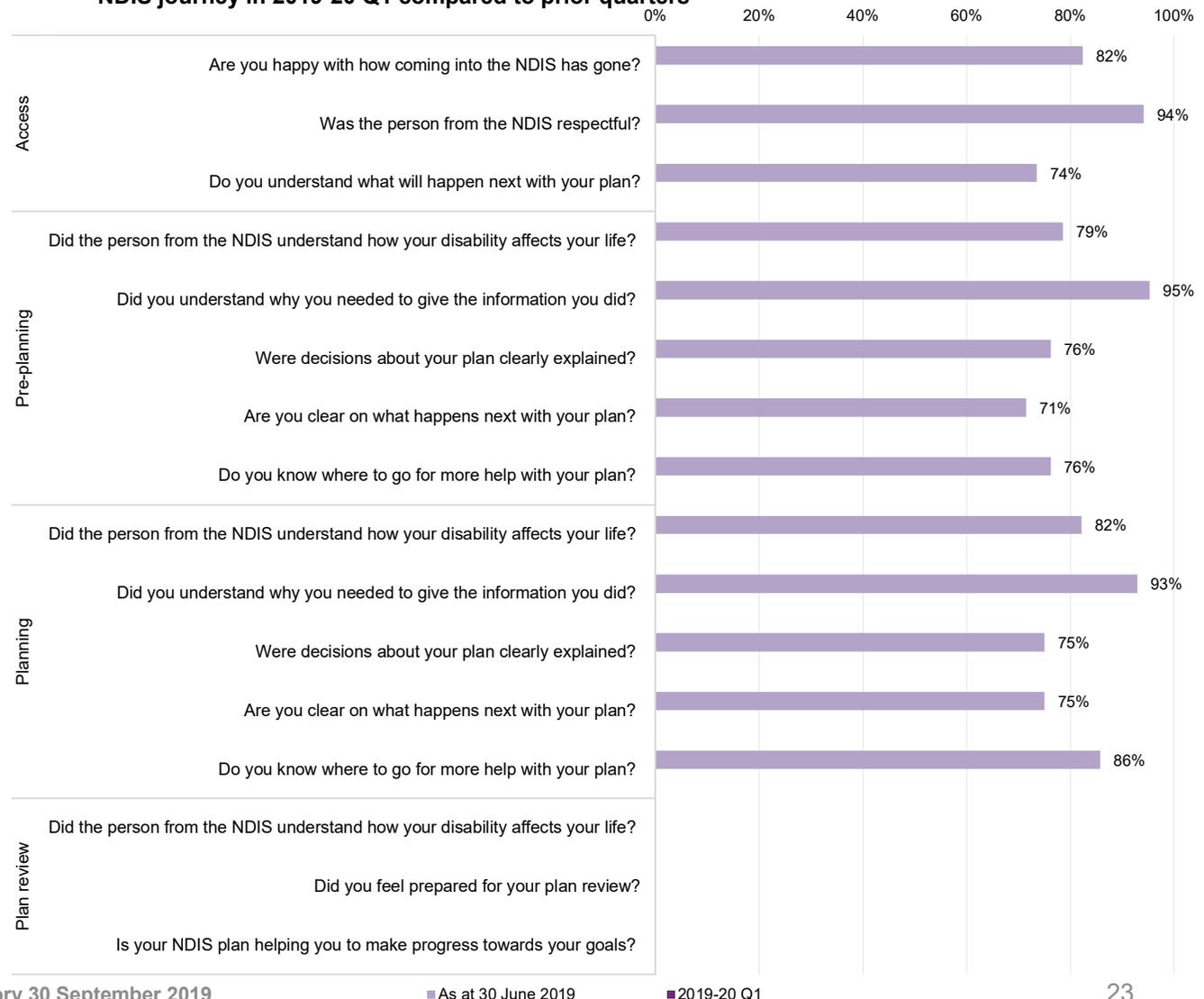
It began roll-out on 1 September 2018 and will become the primary tool for analysing participant experience. The new survey is designed to gather data at the four primary stages of the participant pathway:

- Access
- Pre-planning
- Planning
- Plan Review

There are limited results available for NT at this time due to the small numbers of participants surveyed to date. Generally at National level, there is still work required to improve participant understanding of the NDIS process and what happens next for individuals at each stage of the process.

Note: Participant satisfaction results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Proportion of participants who agreed with statements about the different stages of NDIS journey in 2019-20 Q1 compared to prior quarters



Committed Supports and Payments

Both committed and paid supports to participants are increasing in line with the growing scheme.

Of the \$416.7 million that has been committed in participant plans, \$250.4 million has been paid to date.

Summary

This section presents information on the amount committed in plans and payments to service providers and participants.



Key Statistics

SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS FOR SUPPORTS PROVIDED BY FINANCIAL YEAR SINCE THE NDIS WAS LAUNCHED:

2014-15:	\$1.7M
2015-16:	\$4.2M
2016-17:	\$11.6M
2017-18:	\$66.3M
2018-19:	\$131.2M
2019-20:	\$35.4M TO DATE.

PERCENTAGE OF COMMITTED SUPPORTS UTILISATION BY FINANCIAL YEAR:

2014-15:	82%
2015-16:	72%
2016-17:	58%
2017-18:	66%
2018-19:	64%

UTILISATION OF COMMITTED SUPPORTS IN 2018-19 AND 2019-20 IS STILL EMERGING.

Committed Supports and Payments

This data shows the committed supports by the year they are expected to be provided, in comparison to the committed supports that have been paid.

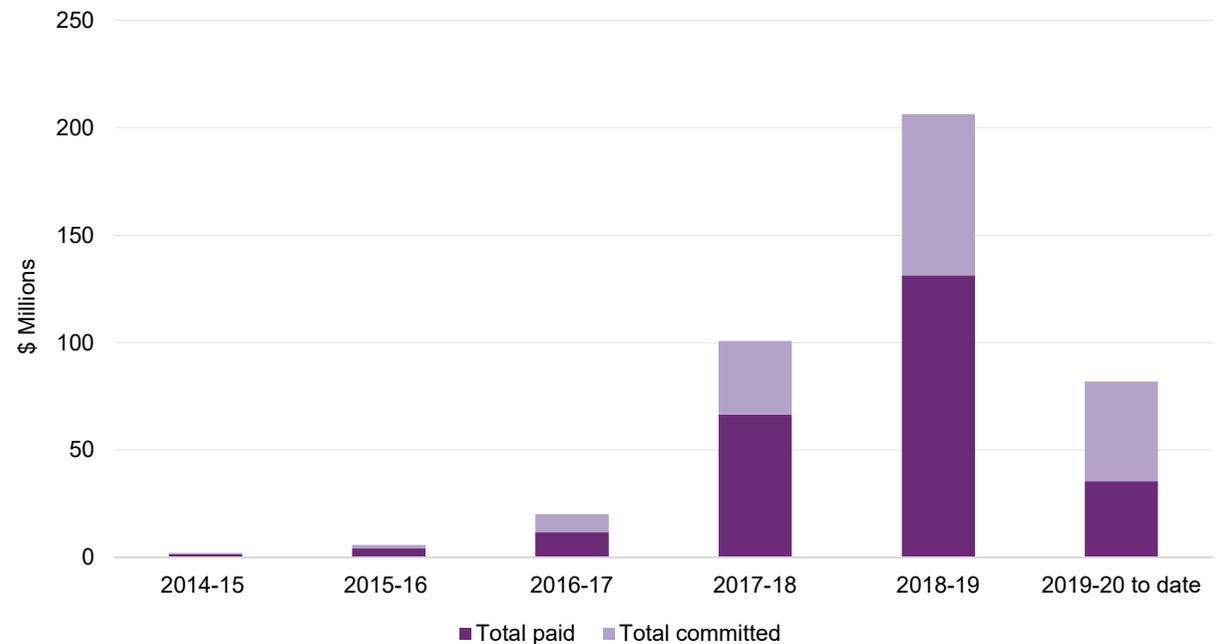
Of the \$416.7 million that has been committed in participant plans, \$250.4 million has been paid to date.

Summary of committed supports paid in financial years since the NDIS launched:

- 2014-15: \$1.7m
- 2015-16: \$4.2m
- 2016-17: \$11.6m
- 2017-18: \$66.3m
- 2018-19: \$131.2m
- 2019-20 to date: \$35.4m

Committed and paid by expected support year

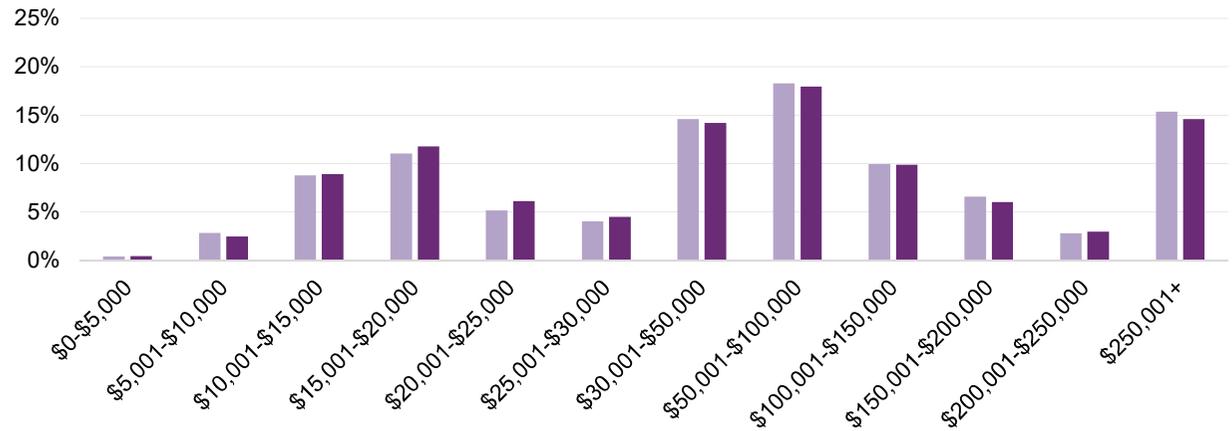
\$Million	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 to date
Total committed	0.0	2.1	5.8	20.1	100.7	206.2	81.8
Total paid	0.0	1.7	4.2	11.6	66.3	131.2	35.4



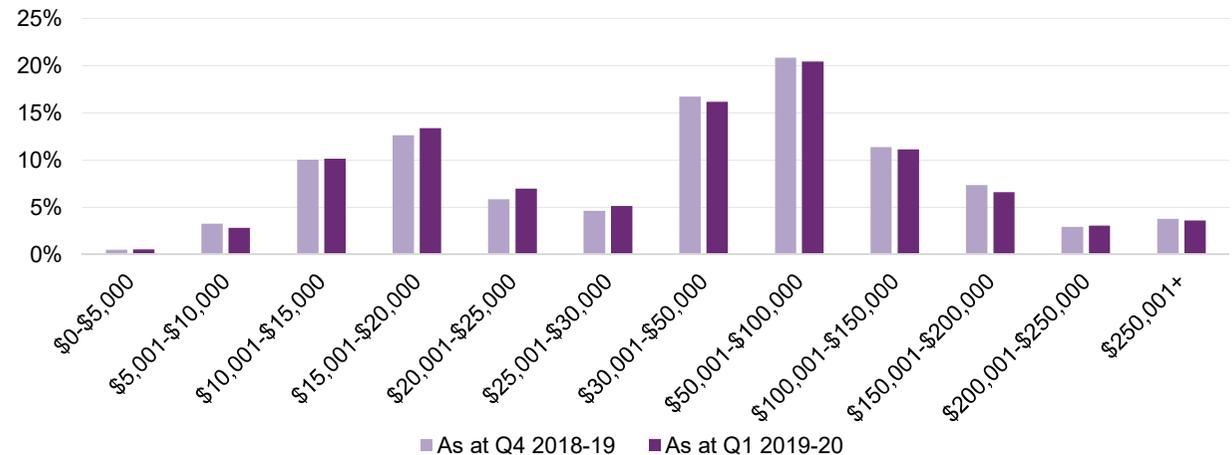
Committed Supports by Cost Band

This quarter, the distribution of average annualised committed supports has remained consistent with prior quarters. This is the case whether Supported Independent Living (SIL) supports are included or excluded in the figures.

Distribution of average annualised committed supports by cost band (including SIL)



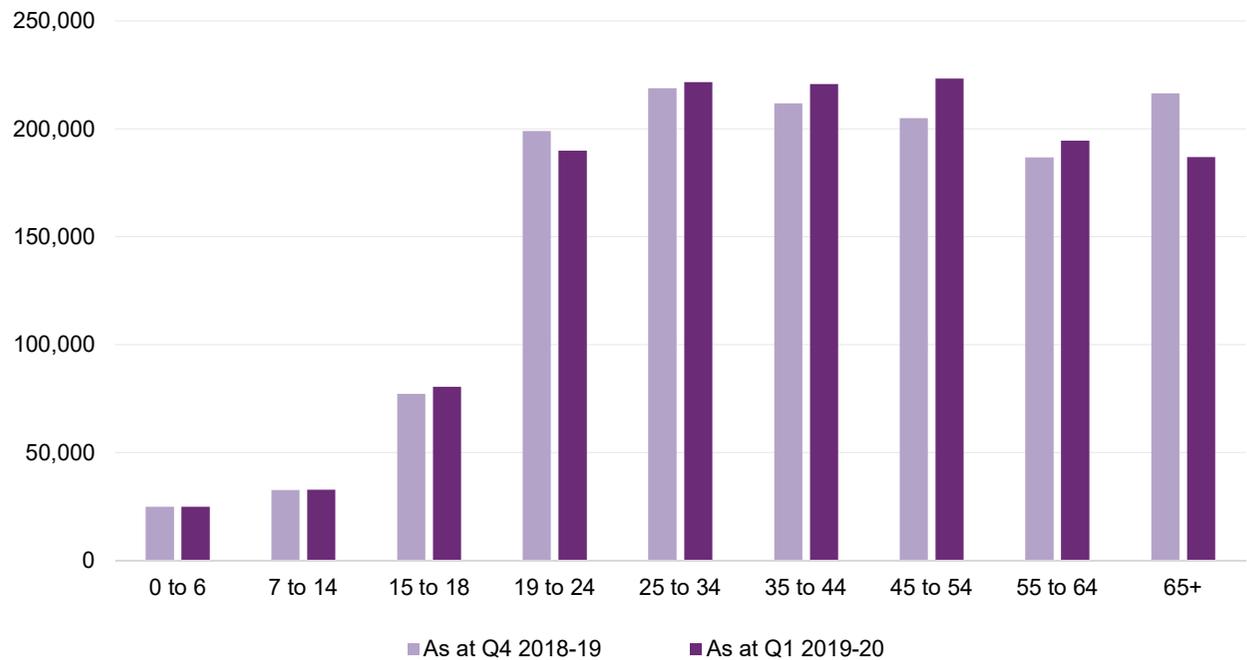
Distribution of average annualised committed supports by cost band (excluding SIL)



Committed Supports by Age Band

This quarter, the average annualised committed supports have remained consistent with prior quarters, increasing steeply between participants 0-6 through to age 25, stabilising to age 45 and reducing in participants of older years.

Average annualised committed supports by age band

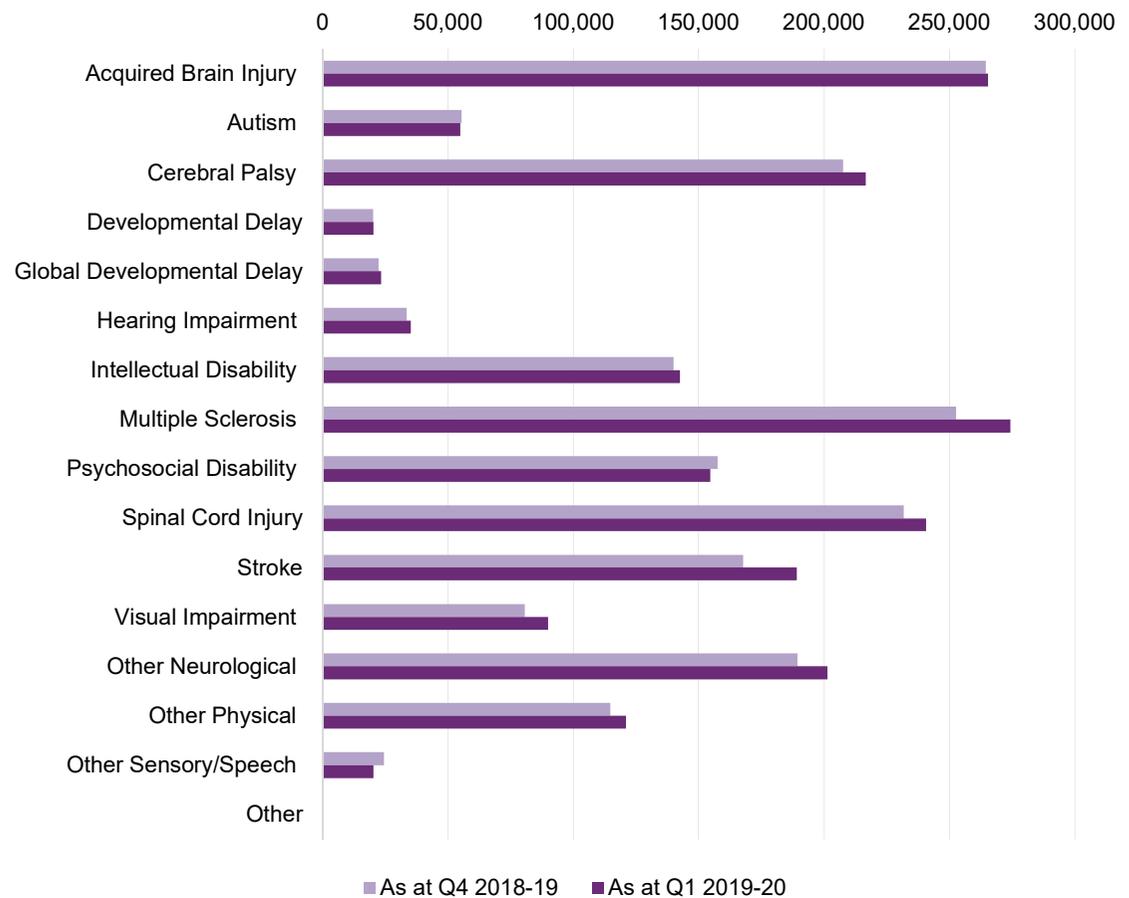


Note: The age eligibility requirements for the NDIS are based on the age as at the access request date. Participants with their initial plan approved aged 65+ have turned 65 since their access request was received.

Committed Supports by Disability Group

The highest average annualised committed supports are for participants with Multiple Sclerosis, Acquired Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury.

Average annualised committed supports by primary disability group

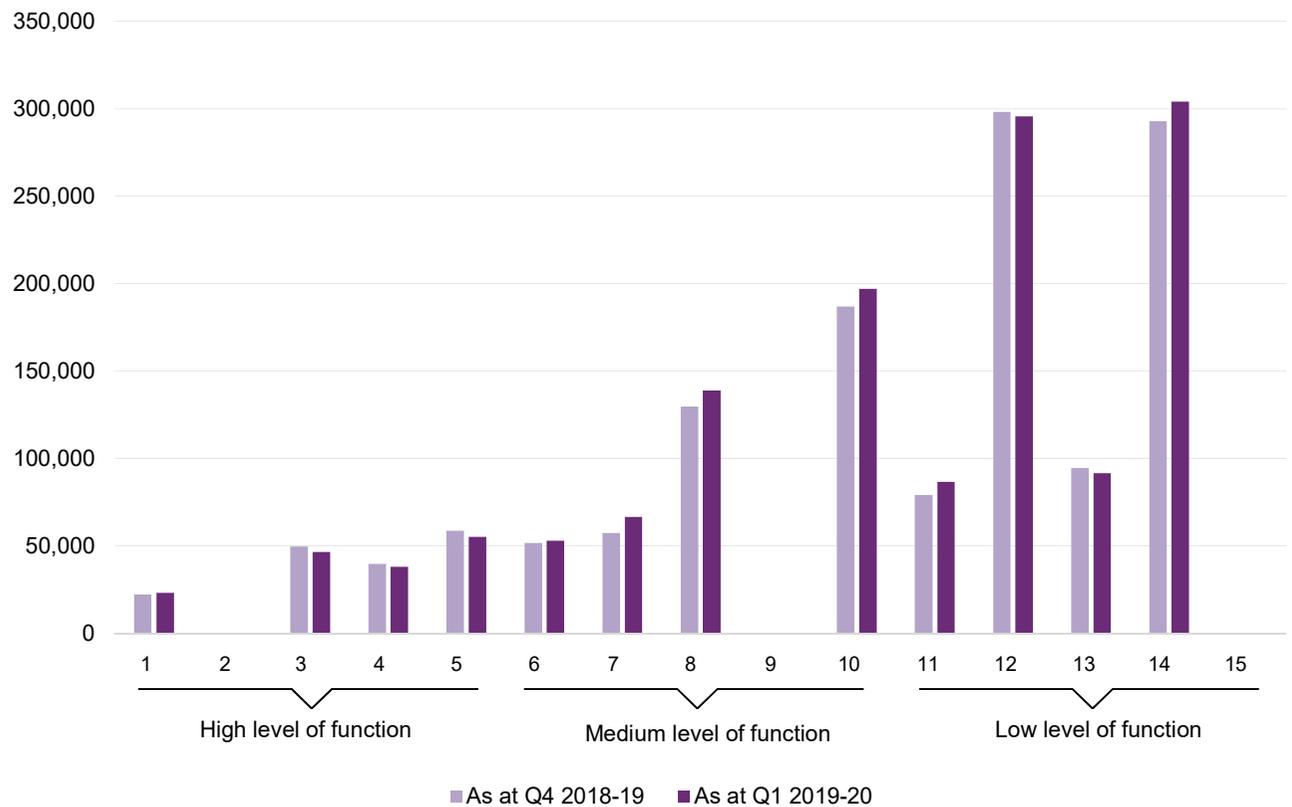


Note: Average annualised committed supports are not shown if there are insufficient data in the group.

Committed Supports by Level of Function

The average annualised committed supports generally increase among participants with higher needs.

Average annualised committed supports by level of function



Note 1: Average annualised committed supports are not shown if there are insufficient data in the group.

Note 2: High, medium and low function is relative within the NDIS population and not comparable to the general population.

Utilisation of Committed Supports

This data demonstrates the utilisation of committed supports by the year they were expected to be provided as at 30 June 2019 and 30 September 2019.

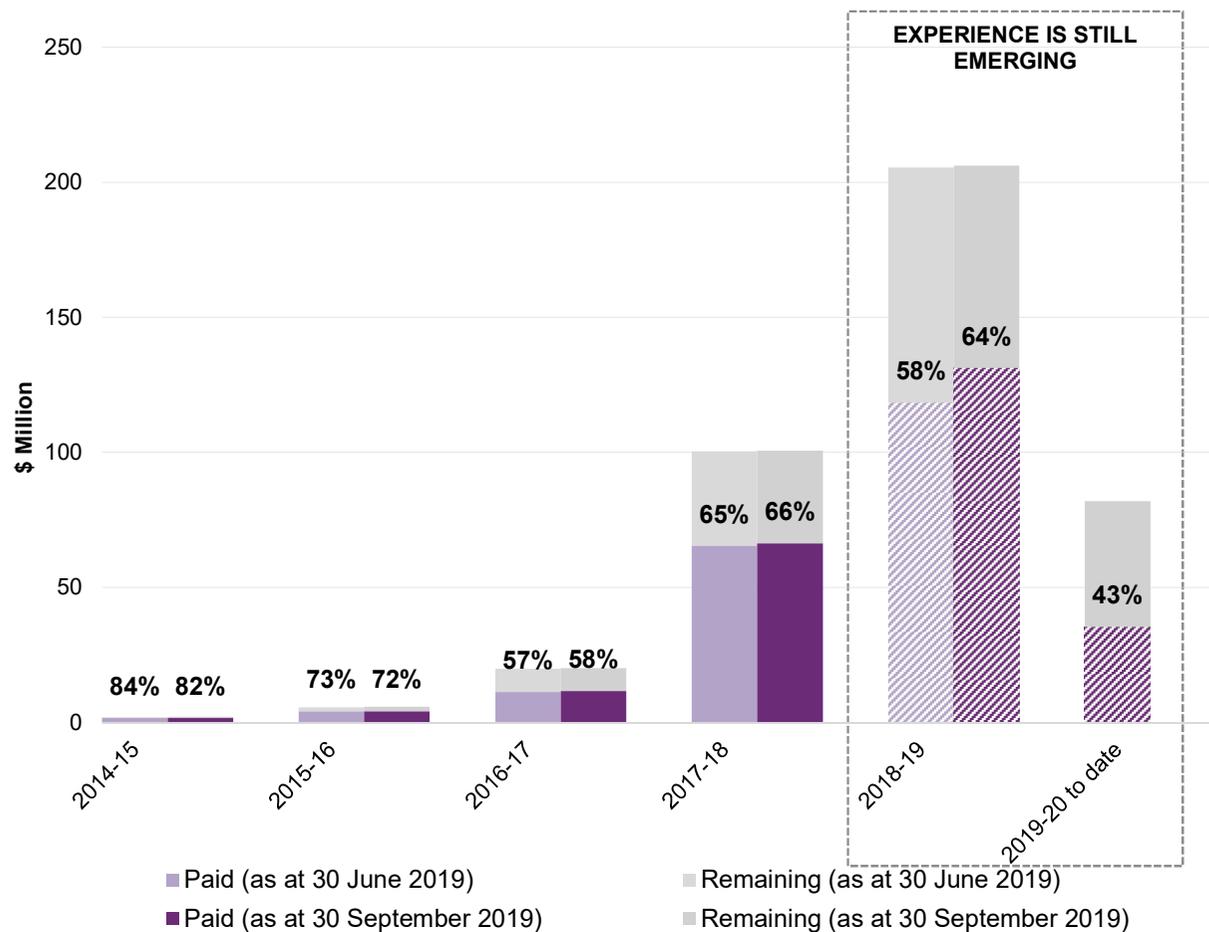
As there is a lag between when support is provided and when it is paid, the utilisation in 2018-19 and 2019-20 will increase.

Experience shows that participants utilise less of their first plan, compared with their second and subsequent plans, as it takes time to familiarise with the NDIS and decide which supports to use.

There were a large number of participants who received their first plan in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 which largely explains why utilisation rates are lower in these periods.

Experience for 2018-19 and 2019-20 is still emerging.

Utilisation of committed supports as at 30 June 2019 and 30 September 2019



Providers and Markets

The provider network grows in scale and diversity, increasing participants' access to high quality services.

There were 374 active providers as at 30 September 2019, 34 of which were active for the first time in the quarter.

The new NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NQSC) commenced to regulate quality and safeguarding of NDIS supports and services. The NQSC has been active in all States and Territories across Australia from 1 July 2019, with the exception of WA which will commence from 1 July 2020.

Summary

This section contains information focused on active service providers and the market, with key provider and market indicators presented.

Provider registration

- From 1 July 2019, providers in all States and Territories across Australia (except WA) register with the NQSC by submitting a registration request, indicating the types of support they are accredited to provide. The NQSC will commence operating in WA from 1 July 2020.
- The NQSC uses a 'National approach' to approve providers and thus, any provider which has been verified in any other States or Territories (with the exception of WA) is automatically approved in Northern Territory.

How providers interact with participants

- NDIS participants have the flexibility to choose the providers who support them.
- Providers are paid for disability supports and services provided to the participants.



Key Statistics

374

ACTIVE PROVIDERS IN
NORTHERN TERRITORY AS
AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

19%

OF ACTIVE SERVICE
PROVIDERS ARE
INDIVIDUALS /
SOLE TRADERS

THERAPEUTIC SUPPORTS HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF ACTIVE SERVICE PROVIDERS, FOLLOWED BY ASSISTANCE PRODUCTS FOR PERSONAL CARE AND SAFETY AND ASSISTANCE IN COORDINATING OR MANAGING LIFE STAGES, TRANSITIONS AND SUPPORTS

The new NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NQSC) commenced to regulate quality and safeguarding of NDIS supports and services. The NQSC has been active in all States and Territories across Australia from 1 July 2019, with the exception of WA which will commence from 1 July 2020.

Active providers at 30 September 2019

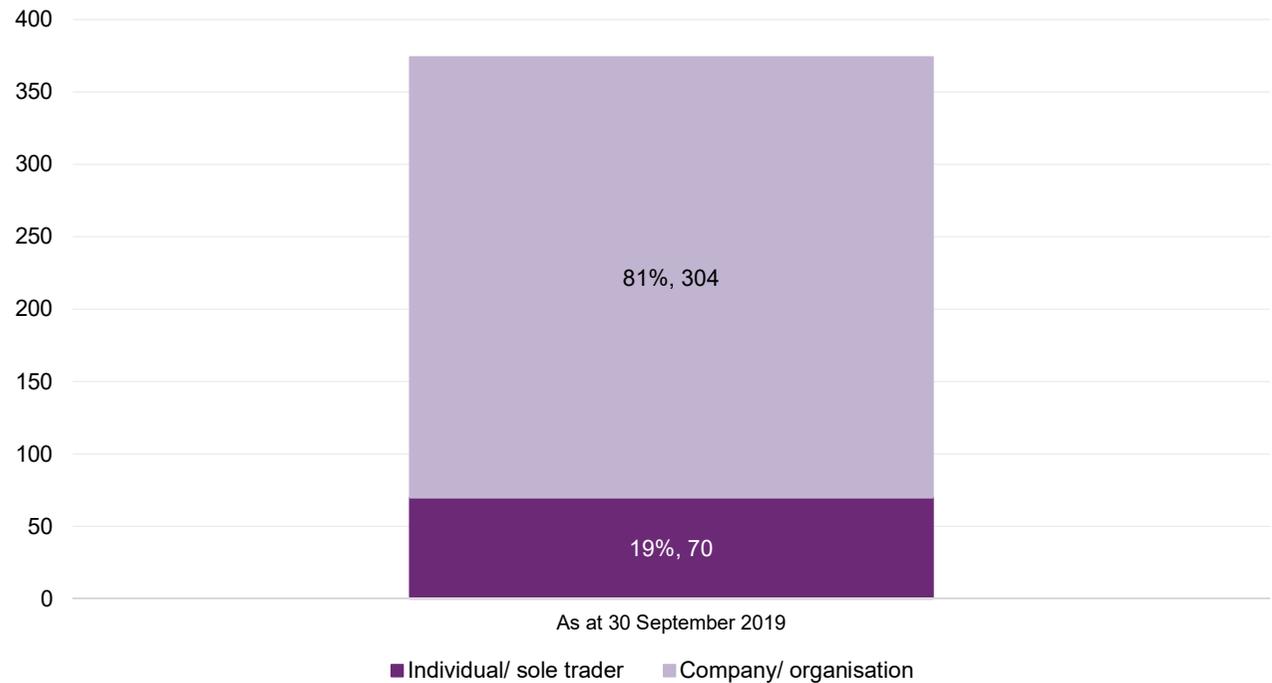
As at 30 September 2019, there were 374 active service providers, of which 70 were individual/sole trader operated businesses and 304 were companies or organisations.

Of the total providers, 83 began delivering new supports in the quarter.



Note: The new NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NQSC) has been established to regulate providers in all States and Territories (with the exception of WA) from 1 July 2019.

Active providers at 30 September 2019



The number of active service providers increased by 10% to 374 in the quarter. Currently, 19% of active service providers are individuals/sole traders.

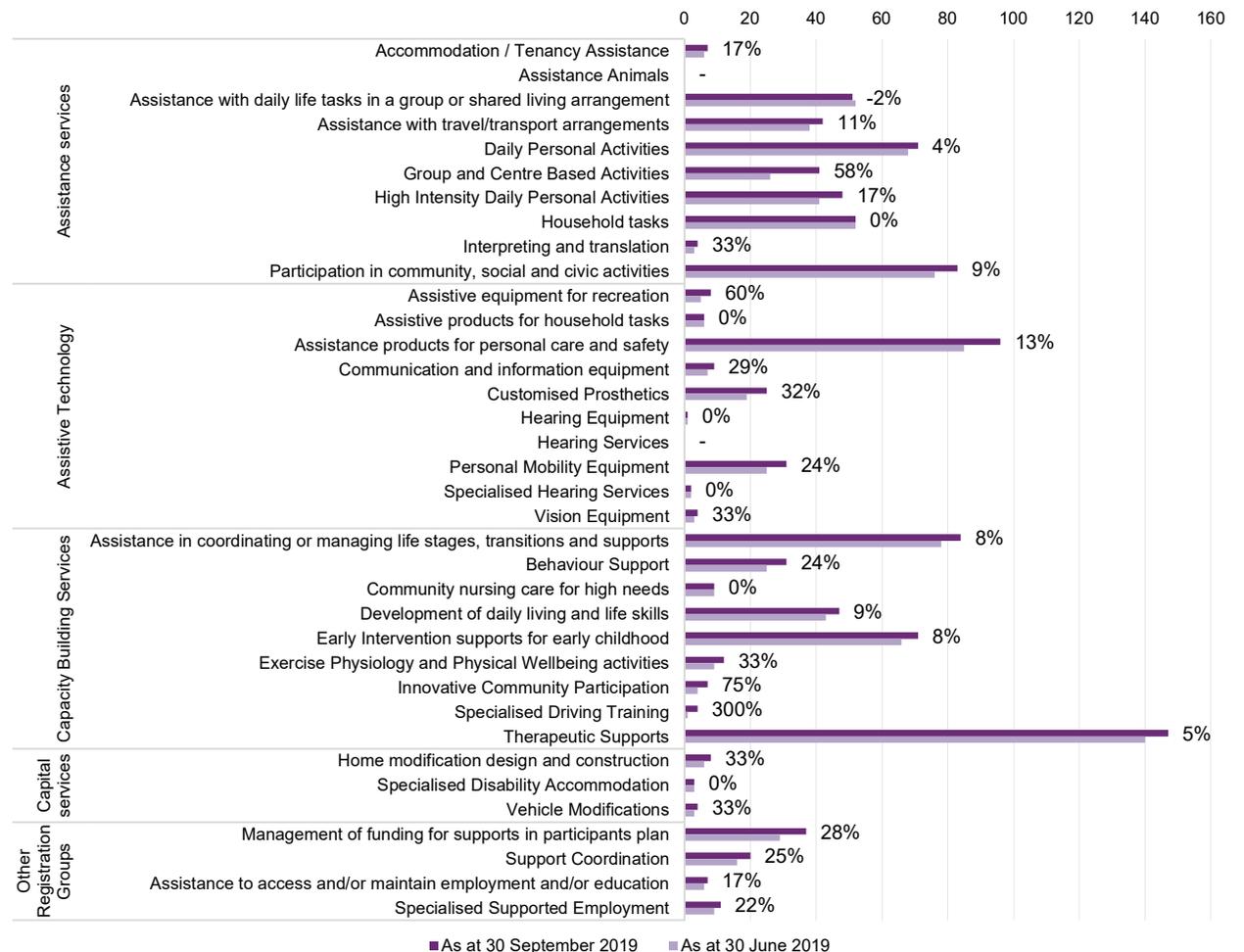
Active Registration Groups

The number of providers active in each registration group has increased for most registration groups over the quarter.

The registration groups with the largest numbers of active providers continue to grow:

- **Therapeutic Supports:** from 140 to 147 (5% increase)
- **Assistance products for personal care and safety:** from 85 to 96 (13% increase)
- **Assistance in coordinating or managing life stages, transitions and supports:** from 78 to 84 (8% increase)
- **Participation in community, social and civic activities:** from 76 to 83 (9% increase)
- **Daily Personal Activities:** from 68 to 71 (4% increase)

Active providers by registration group and percentage change over the quarter



Market share of top providers

There is insufficient data to present information around market share of the largest providers in the NT.

Information, Linkages and Capacity Building

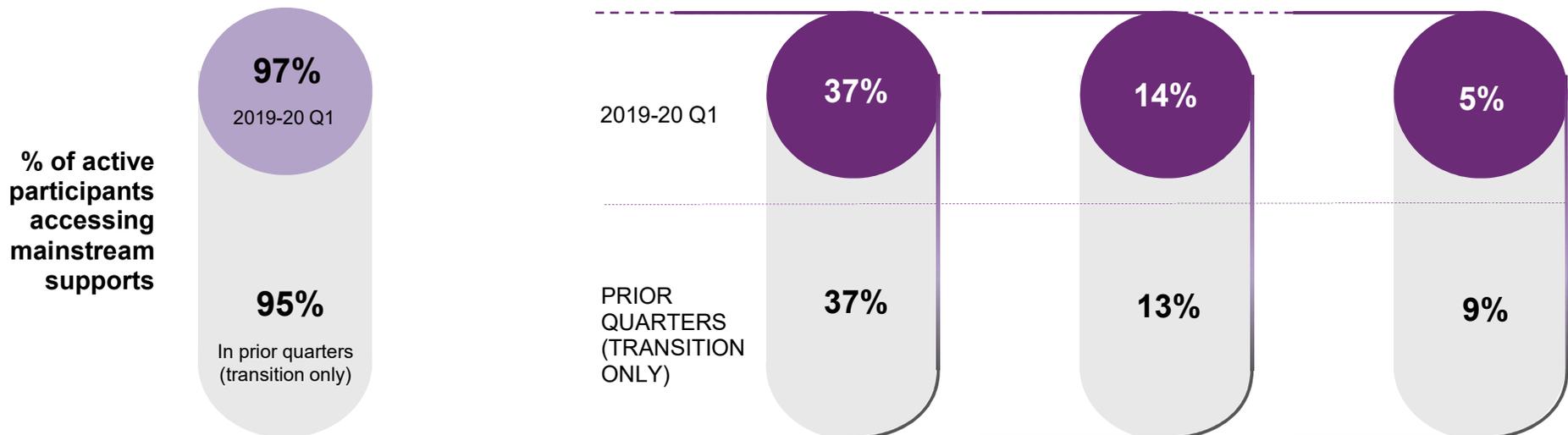
Information, Linkages and Capacity Building was covered in the national version of the COAG Quarterly Performance Report

Mainstream Interface

The proportion of participants entering in the current quarter and accessing mainstream services is higher compared to prior quarters.

Mainstream Interface

Of the total number of active participants with a plan approved in 2019-20 Q1*, 97% access mainstream services, an increase from prior quarters. Participants are accessing mainstream services predominantly for health and wellbeing, daily activities and lifelong learning.



*Note: The results shown here are as at 31 August 2019. The next quarterly report will include data to 31 December 2019.

Financial Sustainability

Financial Sustainability was covered in the national version of the COAG Quarterly Performance Report.