COAG Disability Reform Council. This is the Quarterly Performance Report for Northern Territory.

This is the March 2018 update on NDIA performance.

Overview

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

A diagram displays the six key parts which will be discussed in the Performance Report. These areas are:

• Participants and Planning,

• Committed Supports and Payments,

• Providers and Markets,

• Information, Linkages and Capacity Building,

• Mainstream Interface; and

• Financial Sustainability.

Summary

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The following are the key statistics discussed in this report:

Participants and Planning

68 additional participants with plans this quarter.

As at 31 March 2018, plans approved represent:

• 41% of year to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018)

• 53% of scheme to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2014 to 31 March 2018)

Committed Supports and Payments

$46.5 million has been paid to providers and participants since Scheme inception.

Overall,

• 84% of committed supports were utilised in 2014-15,

• 72% in 2015-16,

• 51% in 2016-17.

2017-18 experience is still emerging.

Providers and Markets

508 approved providers, an 11% increase for the quarter.

17% of service providers are individual/sole traders.

Mainstream Interface

94% of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3 access mainstream services.

PART 1: Participants and Planning

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As the transition phase to full scheme continues, the NDIS in Northern Territory continues to grow with 68 additional participants with approved plans this quarter.

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

The following are the key statistics on Participants and Planning:

258 access decisions in 2017-18 Q3 (including both access met and access not met)

68 initial plans approved in 2017-18 Q3

41% of year to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018)

47% of transition to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2016 to 31 March 2018)

53% of scheme to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2014 to 31 March 2018)

21% of participants with an initial plan approved in 2017-18 Q3 are aged 45 to 54 years

18% of participants with an initial plan approved in 2017-18 Q3 have a reported primary disability of psychosocial disability

Quarterly Intake

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There are three charts. The first chart displays the number of participants with access met (Eligible) by Participant Entry point. The second chart displays the number of participants with approved plans by Participant Entry Point. The third chart displays the number of participants with approved plans by Participant Pathway Type.

2017-18 Q3

Of the 209 participants deemed 'eligible' this quarter 70% entered from an existing State/Territory program.

Of the 68 plan approvals this quarter, 57% were 'New' participants (i.e. had not transitioned from an existing State/Territory or Commonwealth program) and 75% entered with a permanent disability.

The diagram displays the following key statistics on quarterly intake:

258 access decisions

209 access met

68 plan approvals

Quarterly Intake Detail

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A chart displays the change in plan approvals between the current and previous quarter.

Plan approvals as at 31 March 2018

Plan approval numbers have increased from 661 at the end of 2017-18 Q2 to 729 by the end of 2017-18 Q3, an increase of 68 approvals.

As at 31 March 2018 there were 20 exits bringing the overall number to 709.

In the quarter of 2017-18 Q3 there were 131 plan reviews. This figure relates to all participants who have entered the scheme.

Cumulative Position

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There are two charts. The first chart displays the comparison between the cumulative plan approvals and the bilateral estimate per quarter. The second chart displays the number of plan approvals by participant referral pathway.

Plan approvals as at 31 March 2018

As at the end of 2017-18 Q3, the cumulative total number of participants receiving support was 729. Of these, 507 transitioned from an existing State/Territory program and 16 transitioned from an existing Commonwealth program.

In addition, 232 participants were awaiting a plan as at 31 March 2018.

Overall, since 1 July 2014, there have been 1,112 people with access decisions.

Cumulative position reporting is inclusive of trial participants for the reported period and represents participants who have or have had an approved plan.

The following are the key statistics on the cumulative position:

41% of year to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018)

47% of transition to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2016 to 31 March 2018)

53% of scheme to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2014 to 31 March 2018)

729 plan approvals to date

Participant Profiles by Age Group

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There are two charts. The first chart displays the number of participants with an approved plan by age group for the current quarter. The second chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's age group. This chart compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3, compared with plan approvals as at 31 December 2017, by age group.

The proportion of participants that entered in 2017-18 Q3 aged 0 to 6 years has increased from 8% in prior quarters to 18%.

The proportion of participants aged 45 to 54 years was consistent with prior quarters at 21%.

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

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There are two charts. The first chart displays the number of participants with an approved plan by disability group for the current quarter. The second chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's disability group. This chart compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3, compared with plan approvals as at 31 December 2017, by disability group.

18% of participants entering in the quarter of 2017-18 Q3 have a primary disability group of Psychosocial disability, compared to 4% in previous quarters.

13% of participants entering in the quarter of 2017-18 Q3 have a primary disability group of Intellectual Disability, compared to 32% in previous quarters.

Note: Of the 9 active participants identified as having an intellectual disability, 1 (11%), has down syndrome.

Participant Profiles by Level of Function

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A chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's level of function. This chart compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3, compared with plan approvals as at 31 December 2017, by level of function.

For participants with a plan approval in the current quarter:

• 26% of active participants had a relatively high level of function

• 47% of active participants had a relatively moderate level of function

• 26% had a relatively low level of function

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

Participant Profiles by Gender

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The figure on the right displays the amount and percentage of participants with an approved plan per the participant's gender group. This figure compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3, compared with plan approvals as at 31 December 2017, by gender.

The majority of participants are males.

Participant Profiles

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There are three charts. The first chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's Aboriginal & Torres-Strait Islander status. The second chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's Young people in residential aged care status. The third chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's Culturally and Linguistically Diverse status. All three charts compare the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3, compared with plan approvals as at 31 December 2017.

Of the participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3:

• 79.4% were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, compared with 77.8% for prior periods.

• 2.9% were Young people in residential aged care, compared with 0.8% for prior periods.

• 39.7% were Culturally and linguistically diverse, compared with 37.4% for prior periods.

The following are the key statistics for the current quarter on Aboriginal & Torres-Strait Islander status.

54 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

14 Not Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

The following are the key statistics for the current quarter on Young people in residential aged care status.

2 Young people in residential aged care

66 Young people not in residential aged care

The following are the key statistics for the current quarter on Culturally and Linguistically Diverse status.

27 Culturally and linguistically diverse

41 Not culturally and linguistically diverse

0 Not stated

Plan Management Support Co-ordination

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Two charts display the proportion of support coordination and plan management for participants. These charts compare the current quarter against all prior quarters.

The proportion of participants who are fully or partly self-managing their plan was higher in 2017-18 Q3 (7%) compared with prior quarters of transition (4%). The proportion of participants whose plan was partly agency managed and partly plan managed was lower in 2017-18 Q3 (13%) compared with prior quarters of transition (18%).

95% of participants who have had a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3 have support coordination in their plan, compared with 99% in prior quarters during transition.

Plan Activation

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Two charts display the proportion of the duration to activate plans. These charts compare plans approved in 2017-18 Q1, against plans approved in prior quarters.

Plan activation refers to the amount of time between plan approval and the commencement of the participant receiving support.

The percentage of plans activated within 90 days of approval were:

• 61% of plans approved in prior quarters

• 56% of plans approved in 2017-18 Q1.

Plan activation can only be approximated using data on payments. As there is a lag between when support is provided and payments made, these statistics are likely to be conservative. That is, it is likely that plan activation is faster than presented. Further, in-kind supports have been excluded from the calculation, which further contributes to the conservative figures.

Note: Given that plans approved since 2017-18 Q1 are relatively new, it is too early to examine the duration to plan activation for these plans and hence these have been excluded from the charts.

Participant Outcomes

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A chart displays selected key baseline indicators for participants.

Baseline outcome measures were collected from 98% of participants receiving their initial plan since 1 July 2016.

• 61% of participants aged 0 to before school are able to make friends outside of family/carers, compared to 71% of participants from school age to 14

• 77% of participants aged 0 to before school are engaged in age appropriate community, cultural or religious activities, compared to 37% - 60% for other age groups

• 56% of participants from school age to 14 attend school in a mainstream class, compared to 18% of participants aged 15 to 24

• 9% of participants aged 25 and over have a paid job, compared to 6% of participants aged 15 to 24

• 31% of participants aged 25 and over choose what they do every day, compared to 23% of participants aged 15 to 24

Family/Carers Outcomes

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A chart displays selected key baseline indicators for family and carers of participants.

The percentage of participants' family/carers:

• working in a paid job was highest for participants aged 15 to 24 (41%)

• able to advocate for their child/family member was highest for participants aged 15 to 24 (45%)

• who have friends and family they can see as often as they like was highest for participants aged 15 to 24 (55%)

• who feel in control selecting services was highest for participants aged 25 and over (16%)

• who support/plan for their family member through life stage transitions was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (61%)

Has the NDIS helped?

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There is insufficient data to present information on responses to the 'Has the NDIS helped?' questions in NT.

Participant Satisfaction

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There is insufficient data to present information on participant satisfaction in NT.

PART 2: Committed Supports and Payments

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

To date funding committed to participants with an approved plan amounts to $146.2 million (including support periods in the future), of which $46.5 million has been paid.

Summary

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

The following are the key statistics on Committed Supports and Payments:

$146.2 million of supports has been committed to 729 participants

$27.3 million of supports in respect of prior financial years including trial

$91.7 million of supports in respect of 2017-18

$27.1 million of supports in respect of later years

$46.5 million has been paid to providers & participants

Overall, 84% of committed supports were utilised in 2014-15, 72% in 2015-16 and 51% in 2016-17.

The 2017-18 experience is still emerging.

Note: The $91.7 million in respect of 2017-18 only includes approved plans to date.

Note: The $27.1 million committed in future years is due to current plans in place that have an end date past 30 June 2018.

Committed Supports and Payments

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A table and a graph show the comparison between the total committed supports and paid support for each year since scheme inception.

Committed amount by year that the support is expected to be provided, compared with committed supports that have been used (paid).

Of the $146.2 million that has been committed in participant plans, $46.5 million has been paid to date.

In particular, for supports provided in:

2014-15: $1.6m has been paid

2015-16: $4.1m has been paid

2016-17: $10.1m has been paid

2017-18 to date: $30.7m has been paid

Committed Supports by Cost Band

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Two charts (including and excluding SSA) show the comparison of the distribution of average annualised committed supports by cost band for the current and previous quarter.

A large proportion of initial plan approvals in 2017-18 Q3 have average annualised committed supports between $50,001 and $100,000 compared with participants who entered in prior quarters when participants with shared supported accommodation (SSA) supports are included.

This is also the case when SSA participants are excluded.

Committed Supports by Age Band

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A graph shows the comparison between the average annualised committed supports by age band for the current and previous quarter.

Average annualised committed supports increase steeply to age 19 and decreases steadily at older ages.

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

Committed Supports by Disability Group

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A graph shows the comparison between the average annualised committed supports by primary disability group for the current and previous quarter.

Participants with Cerebral Palsy, Acquired Brain Injury and Intellectual Disability have the highest average annualised committed supports.

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

Committed Supports by Level of Function

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A graph shows the comparison between the average annualised committed supports by level of function for the current and previous quarter.

The average annualised committed supports generally increase for participants with lower levels 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

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A graph shows the comparison between the utilisation of committed supports by the year that the support was expected to be provided.

Utilisation of committed supports by year that the support was expected to be provided as at 31 December 2017, compared with 31 March 2018.

As there is a lag between when support is provided and when it is paid, the utilisation in 2017-18 will increase.

The utilisation of committed supports in 2017-18 YTD is still emerging and the utilisation rate is expected to increase as there is a lag between when support is provided and when it is paid.

PART 3: Providers and Markets

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The scale and extent of the market continues to grow, with an 11% increase in the number of providers during the quarter to 508.

Summary

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

Provider registration

• To provide supports to NDIS participants, a service provider is required to register and be approved by the NDIA.

• Providers register with the NDIA by submitting a registration request, indicating the types of support (registration groups) they are accredited to provide.

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.

The following are the key statistics:

508 approved providers

17% of service providers are individual/sole traders

Communication and information equipment has the highest number of approved service providers, followed by innovative community participation and assistance products for personal care and safety

Providers over time

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A chart displays the cumulative number of approved service providers since June 2016 by the type of provider, individual/sole trader or company/organization.

As at 31 March 2018, there were 508 registered service providers of which 87 were individual/sole trader operated business while the remaining 421 providers were registered as a company or organisation.

17% of approved service providers are individual/sole traders.

The number of approved service providers increased by 11% from 458 to 508 in the quarter.

1.55 average number of new providers per participant

Proportion of Active Providers

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The figure displays the proportion of active and not yet active providers.

Change in the activity status of providers.

As at 31 March 2018, 62% of providers have been active and 38% were yet to have evidence of activity. Of the overall stock of providers, 53 providers began delivering new supports in the quarter.

Approved Registration groups

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A chart displays the approved providers by the changes in registration group and percentage over the quarter.

The number of approved providers has increased for most registration groups over the quarter.

Communication and information equipment has the highest number of approved service providers and has seen a 15% increase since the previous quarter.

The largest percentage increase in approved providers was for the Early Intervention supports for early childhood registration group in the quarter. This was followed by Management of funding for supports in participants plan, Daily Personal Activities and Assistance in coordinating or managing life stages, transitions and supports.

Active Registration groups

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A chart displays the active providers by the changes in registration group and percentage over the quarter.

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

Assistance products for personal care and safety has the highest number of active service providers and has seen a 13% increase since the previous quarter.

The largest percentage increase in active providers in the quarter was for the Specialised Supported Employment registration group. This was followed by Early Intervention supports for early childhood, Management of funding for supports in participants plan and Interpreting and translation.

Market share of top providers

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

PART 4: Information, Linkages and Capacity Building

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

PART 5: Mainstream Interface

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

Mainstream Interface

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An object displays the comparison of the percentage of participants accessing mainstream supports. The object compares the current quarter against all prior quarters (transition only).

94% of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3 access mainstream services, a slight decrease from prior quarters. Participants are accessing mainstream services predominantly for health and wellbeing, daily activities and lifelong learning.

The following are the key statistics:

95% of active participants with a plan approved in prior quarters (transition only) access mainstream supports, across the following domains:

• Health and wellbeing (53%)

• Daily activities (11%)

• Lifelong learning (6%)

94% of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q3 access mainstream supports, across the following domains:

• Health and wellbeing (51%)

• Daily activities (12%)

• Lifelong learning (7%)

PART 6: Financial Sustainability

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