

8. Families/carers of participants aged 25 and over: Has the NDIS helped?

8.1 Aggregate results

Figure 8.1 shows the percentage of families/carers who think that the NDIS has helped with outcomes related to each of the five SF domains after at least one year in the Scheme (i.e. at review).

Figure 8.1 Percentage of families/carers who think that the NDIS has helped with outcomes related to each domain

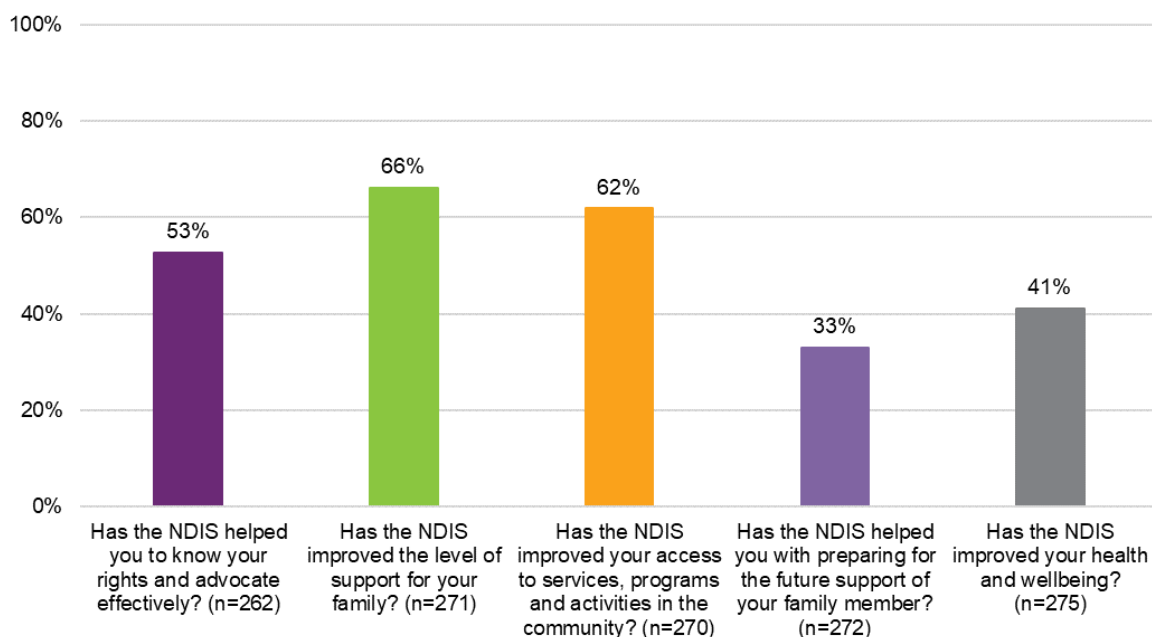


Figure 8.1 highlights that most families/carers think that the NDIS has helped with three out of the five SF domains. The most positive responses are for improving the level of support for the family (66%), and improving access to services, programs and activities in the community (62%). However, only 41% felt that the NDIS had improved their health and wellbeing, and only 33% said the NDIS had helped them to prepare for the future support of the participant.

8.2 Results by participant characteristics

One-way analysis³⁹ of key participant and family/carer characteristics against the NDIS helped questions suggests the following relationships:

- Participant level of function: Families and carers of participants with a low level of function were more likely to think that the NDIS had helped across all domains in the SF as compared to those with medium and high levels of function. For example:

³⁹ Multiple logistic regression modelling was not used for the families and carers of participants 25 and over due to the small sample size of this cohort.

- The percentage who said the NDIS had helped them to know their rights and advocate effectively was 44% for high level of function, 46% for medium level of function, and 66% for low level of function.
 - The percentage saying that the NDIS had improved the level of support for their family was highest for participants with low levels of function (73%) as compared to medium (66%) and high (54%).
- Baseline plan utilisation: Families/carers were generally more likely to think that the NDIS had helped as the utilisation of the participant's baseline plan increased. For example, 49% of families/carers with the lowest level of utilisation (<20%) thought that the NDIS had improved their access to services, programs and activities in the community, compared to 79% for the highest level of utilisation (80-100%).
 - Culturally and linguistically diverse background and Indigenous status⁴⁰: Families/carers were less likely to say that the NDIS had helped them to prepare for the future support of the participant if the participant was Indigenous, or from a CALD background. However, families and carers of Indigenous participants were more likely to say that the NDIS had improved their health and wellbeing.
 - Gender: The families and carers of female participants responded more positively across all domains compared to male participants, with the largest difference being improved access to services, programs and activities in the community (72% females vs 55% males).

⁴⁰ Note the small sample sizes for CALD background (n=32) and Indigenous status (n=15) reduces the reliability of these results