

ndis

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants

30 June 2019



National Disability Insurance Agency

Introduction

Key points

Prevalence estimates of disability for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people

- Population prevalence
- Scheme prevalence

Comparison of NDIS Indigenous and non-Indigenous participant experience as at 30 June 2019

- Access and eligibility
- Participant characteristics
- Participant plans
- Outcomes

Introduction



The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provides reasonable and necessary funding to people with a permanent and significant disability to access the supports and services they need to live and enjoy their life.

The purpose of this report is to present information on the experience of NDIS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander¹ participants, and to compare this experience to non-Indigenous participants.

The term 'Indigenous participants' is used throughout the following sections to refer to participants of the NDIS who have identified as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, or both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander during the access and/or planning process.

The term 'Non-Indigenous participants' refers to participants of the NDIS who have not identified or not stated that they are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander during the access and/or planning process.

¹ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander is the collective term for all people who identify and are recognised as descendants of the original inhabitants of Australia, and acknowledges the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups in Australia.

Key definitions



Access request:

A formal request by an individual for a determination of eligibility to access the Scheme.

Carer:

Someone who provides personal care, support and assistance to a person with a disability and who is not contracted as a paid or voluntary worker.

Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI):

An approach which supports children aged 0-6 who have developmental delay or disability and their families/carers. Depending on individual circumstances a child may move through the ECEI program to become an NDIS participant on either an s.24 Permanent Disability (PD) or s.25 Early Intervention (EI) participant.

Supported Independent Living (SIL):

Supported Independent Living (SIL) is help with and/or supervision of daily tasks to develop the skills of an individual to live as independently as possible. Assistance provided to a participant will be included as part of their plan depending on the level of support they require to live independently in the housing option of their choice.

Key measures

Average committed supports:

The average cost of supports contained within participant's plans, approved to be provided to support participant's needs. This amount is annualised to allow for comparison of plans of different lengths. In this report, average committed supports are the average annualised committed supports allocated to active plans at 30 June 2019.

Average payments:

Payments are made to providers, participants or their nominees for supports received as part of a participant's plan. In this report, average payments represent the average cash and in-kind supports paid over the 2018-19 financial year on active plans at 30 June 2019. In-kind refers to existing Commonwealth or State/ Territory government programs delivered under existing block grant funding arrangements.

Average utilisation of committed supports:

Utilisation represents the proportion of committed supports in participant plans that are utilised. Utilisation is calculated as payments divided by committed supports. In this report, average utilisation of committed supports is calculated for the period beginning 1 October 2018 and ending 31 March 2019.

Complaint rate:

Complaint rates are calculated as the number of complaints made by people who have sought access divided by the number of people who have sought access. The number of people who have sought access used in the calculation takes into account the length of time since access was sought. Complaints submitted after 31 March 2019 have been excluded from the report as the results for the most recent quarter may be impacted by a lag in data collection.

Exit rate:

Exit rates represent the number of participants that have left the Scheme as a proportion of the amount of time participants have been active in the Scheme. Reasons for exit include death (mortality exits), being found ineligible or choosing to leave the Scheme (non-mortality exits). In this report, exit rates are annualised and reflect the period beginning 1 January 2017 and ending 30 June 2019.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement strategy

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Strategy is a statement of the National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) commitment to walk with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in delivering the NDIS across Australia.

The NDIA aims to develop a collaborative planning and working model to inform practice which can meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with disability, their families, carers and communities.

The strategy acknowledges the importance of a community-by-community approach to meeting the needs of diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The approach involves developing local solutions and a commitment to maximising opportunities for employment, training and economic development in the rollout of the Scheme.

Source: www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/strategies/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-strategy

Key points (1)



As of 30 June 2019, there were 16,417 Indigenous participants in the NDIS, making up 5.7% of all active participants in the NDIS.

Compared to non-Indigenous participants:

- a larger proportion of Indigenous participants are aged 0 to 24 (65% for Indigenous compared to 54% for non-Indigenous) and a lower proportion are aged 35 and over.
- a smaller proportion of Indigenous participants have autism as their primary disability (28% for Indigenous compared to 31% for non-Indigenous) and a higher proportion of Indigenous participants have an intellectual disability as their primary disability (30% for Indigenous compared to 27% for non-Indigenous).
- a smaller proportion of Indigenous participants live in major cities (43% for Indigenous compared to 68% for non-Indigenous), and a much higher proportion live in remote or very remote regions (11% for Indigenous compared to 1% for non-Indigenous).

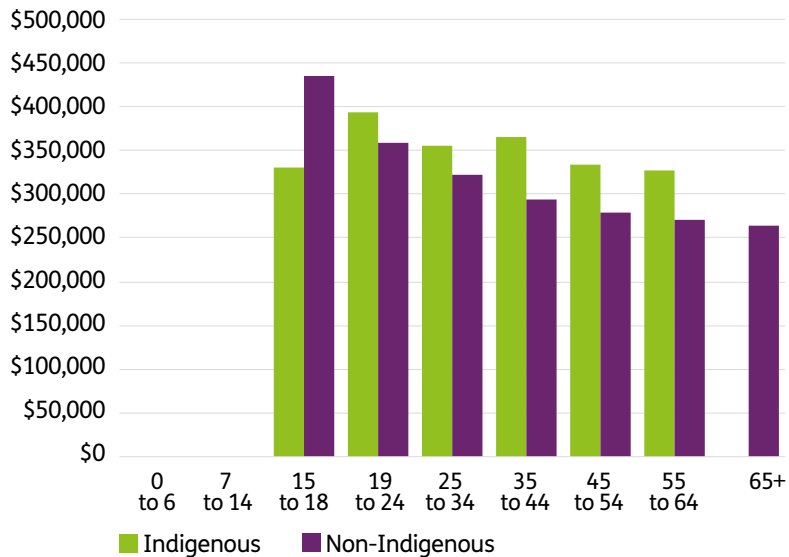
Supported Independent Living (SIL) arrangements are included in the plans of 6% of Indigenous participants, compared to 7% for non-Indigenous participants. For participants aged 25 and over, SIL arrangements are included in the plans of 15% of Indigenous participants and 15% of non-Indigenous participants.

Compared to non-Indigenous participants, the rate of exit from the Scheme amongst Indigenous participants has been:

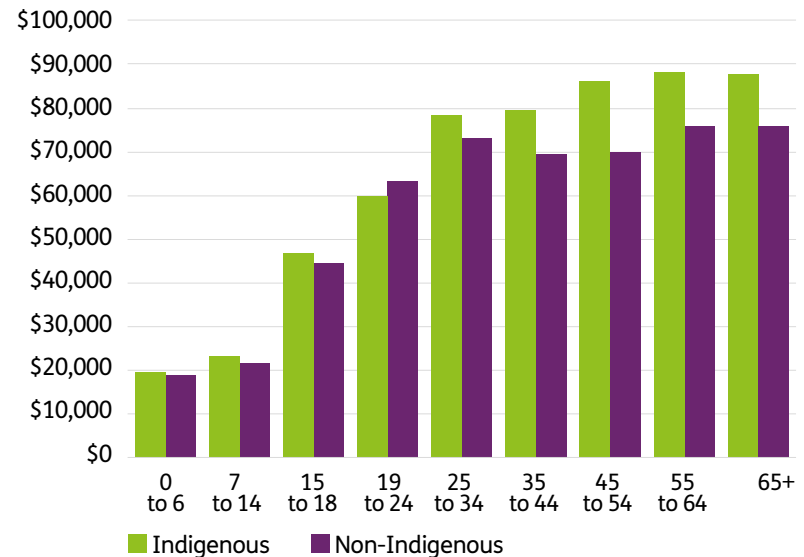
- Lower for ages 0 to 14 and ages 35 to 44, driven by lower non-mortality exit rates
- Higher for ages 15 to 34 and ages 45 and over, driven by higher mortality exit rates

Key points (2)

Average committed supports in active SIL participant plans



Average committed supports in active non-SIL participant plans



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, average committed supports for Indigenous participants are:

- Higher for participants of all ages except 15 to 18 who have SIL arrangements included in their plans
- Higher for participants of all ages except for 19 to 24 who do not have SIL arrangements included in their plans

Note: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group. Data is deemed insufficient if there are 10 or fewer participants in the category.

Key points (3)



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants have approximately 1% lower average payments on active plans.¹

Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants are utilising slightly less of their plans (that is, utilisation of committed supports is slightly lower). Indigenous participants are utilising 60% of their plans on average compared to 67% for non-Indigenous participants.¹

Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants have had a lower complaint rate² for the duration of the Scheme. At March 2019, the complaint rate for Indigenous participants is 5.1%, compared to 6.5% for non-Indigenous participants.

¹ This is after standardising for mix of participants with SIL and the age of participants.

² This is after standardising for the age of participants and remoteness.

Key points (4)

Upon entering the Scheme¹, the key differences in outcomes for Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants are:

Children age 0 to 14: Indigenous participants are more likely to be able to make friends, but are less likely to participate in social and community activities compared to non-Indigenous participants. For school aged children, fewer Indigenous participants are attending school in a mainstream class and developing skills appropriate to their ability.

Age 15 and over: Indigenous participants are less likely to be happy with or feel safe in their home compared to non-Indigenous participants, and generally report poorer outcomes in respect to employment, health and wellbeing, and lifelong learning. Indigenous participants in remote communities have the lowest employment rates for all groups and reported having the least amount of choice and control.

The families and carers of Indigenous participants are considerably less likely to have a paid job, and are more likely to be receiving a Carer Payment. The families/carers of Indigenous participants are also more likely to have friends and family they see as often as they like compared to non-Indigenous participants.

¹ At the time participants enter the Scheme, the NDIS has not yet impacted on their outcomes. Consequently, the success of the Scheme should be judged not on baseline outcomes, but on how far participants have come since they entered the Scheme, acknowledging their different starting points.

Key points (5)

After one year in the Scheme, the key changes in outcomes for Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants are:

Age 0 to starting school: The increase in the percentage of children who could tell their parent or carer what they want is similar for both groups.

School age to 14: Both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants experienced a deterioration in the percentage of children who could develop appropriate skills, make friends, and attend a mainstream class. However, the size of the decrease was larger for Indigenous participants.

Age 15 to 24: Indigenous participants reported improvements in their ability to choose who supports them and to choose what they do each day, and this was higher than the equivalent rate of improvement for non-Indigenous participants.

Age 25 and over: The percentage of participants who want more choice and control in their life increased by similar rates for both groups, and the improvement in access to health services was highest for Indigenous participants.

Families/carers of Indigenous participants aged 0 to 14 had a smaller increase in paid employment and a larger increase in receipt of Carer Payment compared to families/carers of non-Indigenous participants.

Indigenous participants of all ages and their families and carers were less likely to perceive that the NDIS had helped them at their first plan review compared to non-Indigenous participants.

Key points (6)

After two years in the Scheme, the key changes in employment and social and community participation outcomes for Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants are:

Age 15 to 24: Indigenous participants reported a +5% improvement in employment, which was lower than the +9% improvement for non-Indigenous participants.

Age 25 and over: The percentage of participants in paid work remained broadly stable, albeit at a considerably higher rate for non-Indigenous participants (25%) compared to Indigenous participants (12%).

For all Indigenous participants aged 15 and over, there was a considerable increase in community and social participation from a baseline of 37% to 46%, which is equivalent to the rate of community participation for non-Indigenous participants.

Perceptions of the NDIS generally improved for Indigenous participants (and their families/carers) between their first and second year in the Scheme, and the gap between positive response rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants narrowed.

Key figures (1)

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Difference	
Key Statistics				
People who have had their access met	18,215	290,371		
Active participants	16,417	269,598		
% of active participants in the Scheme	6%	94%		
Access and eligibility				
% Access decisions: Eligible	86%	85%	1%	●
% Access decisions: Ineligible	14%	15%	-1%	●
% Early intervention	22%	18%	4%	●
Participant characteristics				
% Gender: Female	35%	37%	-2%	○
% Primary disability: Autism	28%	31%	-3%	●
% Primary disability: Intellectual disability	30%	27%	3%	●
% Primary disability: Psychosocial disability	9%	9%	0%	●
% Level of function: Low	26%	29%	-3%	●
% Remote or very remote	11%	1%	10%	●
% Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)	5%	9%	-4%	●
% In Supported Independent Living (SIL)	6%	7%	-1%	●

● Difference greater than 3% ○ Difference of 1% to 3% ● Difference less than 1%

Key figures (2)

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Difference	
Plans				
Average committed supports: Overall (standardised for age and SIL)	\$74,519	\$65,701	13%	●
Average committed supports: SIL (standardised for age)	\$349,421	\$293,752	19%	●
Average committed supports: Non-SIL (standardised for age)	\$53,527	\$48,287	11%	●
Average payments: Overall (standardised for age and SIL)	\$38,182	\$38,713	-1%	○
Average payments: SIL (standardised for age)	\$213,338	\$199,012	7%	●
Average payments: Non-SIL (standardised for age)	\$23,034	\$24,851	-7%	●
Utilisation: Overall (standardised for age and SIL)	60%	67%	-7%	●
Utilisation: SIL (standardised for age)	81%	85%	-3%	○
Utilisation: Non-SIL (standardised for age)	49%	58%	-9%	●
Participant experience				
Exit rate: Overall	1.71%	1.75%	-0.04%	●
Rate of participant complaints at 31 March 2019	5.07%	6.51%	-1.43%	○
Outcomes				
% in paid employment after two years in the Scheme: age 15 to 24	18%	22%	-4%	●
% participating in SCC after two years in the Scheme: age 15 to 24	40%	44%	-4%	●
% in paid employment after two years in the Scheme: age 25+	12%	25%	-14%	●
% participating in SCC after two years in the Scheme: age 25+	49%	47%	2%	○

● Difference greater than 3% ○ Difference of 1% to 3% ● Difference less than 1%

SCC: Social, community and civic activities

Proportion of Indigenous participants in the NDIS and prevalence of disability

Comparison of SDAC 2015, Census 2016 and Scheme experience

SDAC classification of core activity limitation



The Survey of Disability Ageing and Carers (SDAC) is considered by the ABS to be the most detailed and comprehensive source of disability data.

It collects information on core activity limitations related to communication, mobility and self-care, along with information on other activity limitations.

To identify whether a person has a particular type of limitation, information is collected on need for assistance, difficulty experienced, and use of aids or equipment to perform selected tasks associated with each type of limitation.

Limitations are classified as profound, severe, moderate or mild. The charts in the following slides are in reference to people with profound and/or severe core activity limitations.

Source: Australia Bureau of Statistics, 2015, Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, cat. no. 4430.0, viewed 14 November 2019, www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/4430.0Glossary12015?opendocument&tabname=Notes&prodno=4430.0&issue=2015

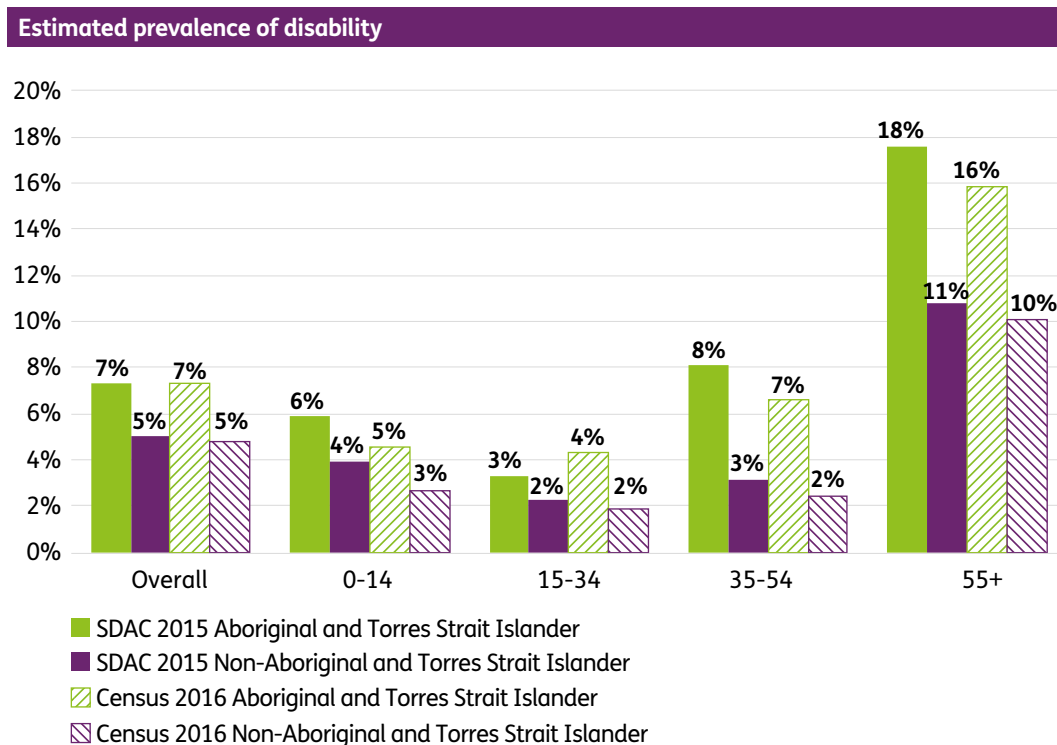
Census classification of need for assistance with core activities

For the purpose of calculating prevalence, the Census “Core Activity Need for Assistance” is used, which is an approximation for the number of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation.

People with a profound or severe core activity limitation are defined as those people needing help or assistance in one or more of the three core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication, because of a disability, long-term health condition (lasting six months or more) or old age.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016, Census of Population and Housing: Census Dictionary, cat. no. 2901.0, viewed 14 November 2019, [www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/ausstats/subscriber.nsf/0/4D2CE49C30755BE7CA2581BE001540A7/\\$File/2016%20census%20dictionary.pdf](http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/ausstats/subscriber.nsf/0/4D2CE49C30755BE7CA2581BE001540A7/$File/2016%20census%20dictionary.pdf)

Prevalence of disability by Indigenous status



Both the Census 2016 and SDAC 2015 estimates of prevalence of disability amongst Indigenous people increase with age, with the exception of ages 0-14, where prevalence is higher than for ages 15-34.

Compared to non-Indigenous people aged 35-54, prevalence is significantly higher for Indigenous people aged 35-54.

Both surveys show that the prevalence of disability amongst Indigenous people is approximately 1.5 to 2 times that of non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.

Note: The SDAC proportion reflects percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander/non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people with a profound/severe core activity limitation. The Census proportion reflects the percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander/non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people with a need for assistance with core activities.

NDIS expected proportion of Indigenous participants in the NDIS

For planning and reporting purposes, the NDIA requires projections of Indigenous participants by geographical area, such as Local Government Area (LGA). The Census is therefore used as the basis for estimating NDIS Indigenous participant numbers as it is the only source providing the required level of geographical subdivision.

The methodology for estimating the number of Indigenous participants in the NDIS by the 'steady intake date' as a proportion of all NDIS participants can be summarised as follows:

From Census 2016, obtain a tabulation of the population by the core activity need for assistance variable, LGA, Indigenous status, sex and age group.

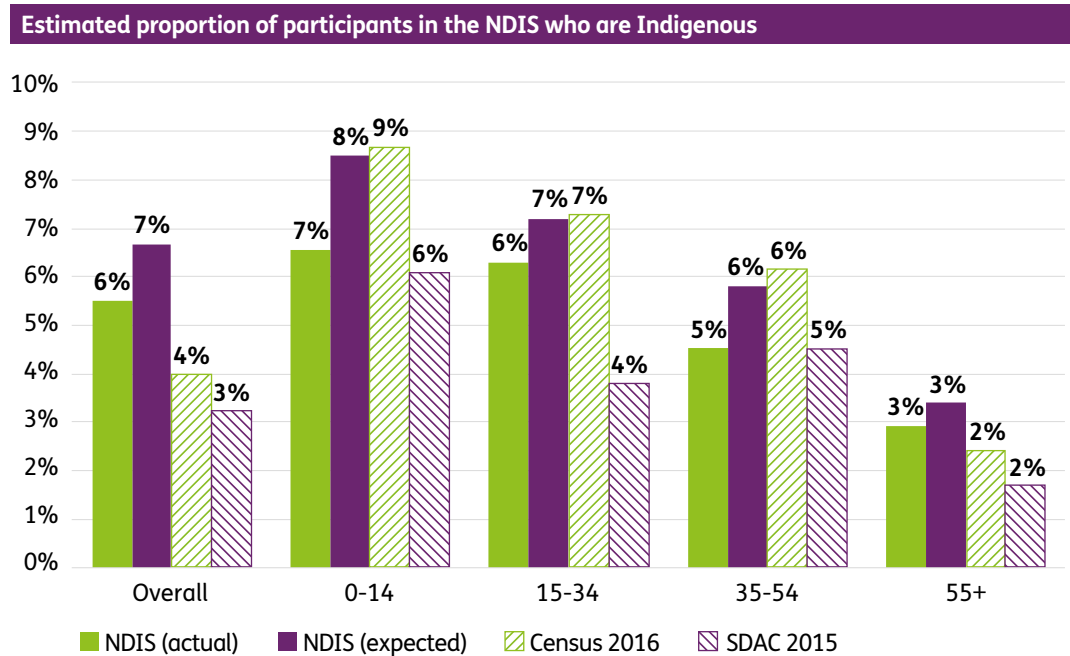
Use the above tabulation to calculate the number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people with need for assistance, for each LGA and age group.

Of people with need for assistance, for each age group derive the proportion who are Indigenous as the ratio of the number of Indigenous people with need for assistance, to the total number of people with need for assistance.

This proportion is considered a reasonable estimate of the proportion of NDIS participants who are expected to identify as Indigenous in each age group and LGA.

Note: 'Steady intake date' refers to the point in time where new entrants into the Scheme primarily represents participants with new incidence of disability, as opposed to participants transferring into the Scheme with existing disabilities.

Proportion of participants in the NDIS who are Indigenous



The proportion of participants in the NDIS who are Indigenous decreases with age, which is consistent with SDAC 2015 and the Census 2016.

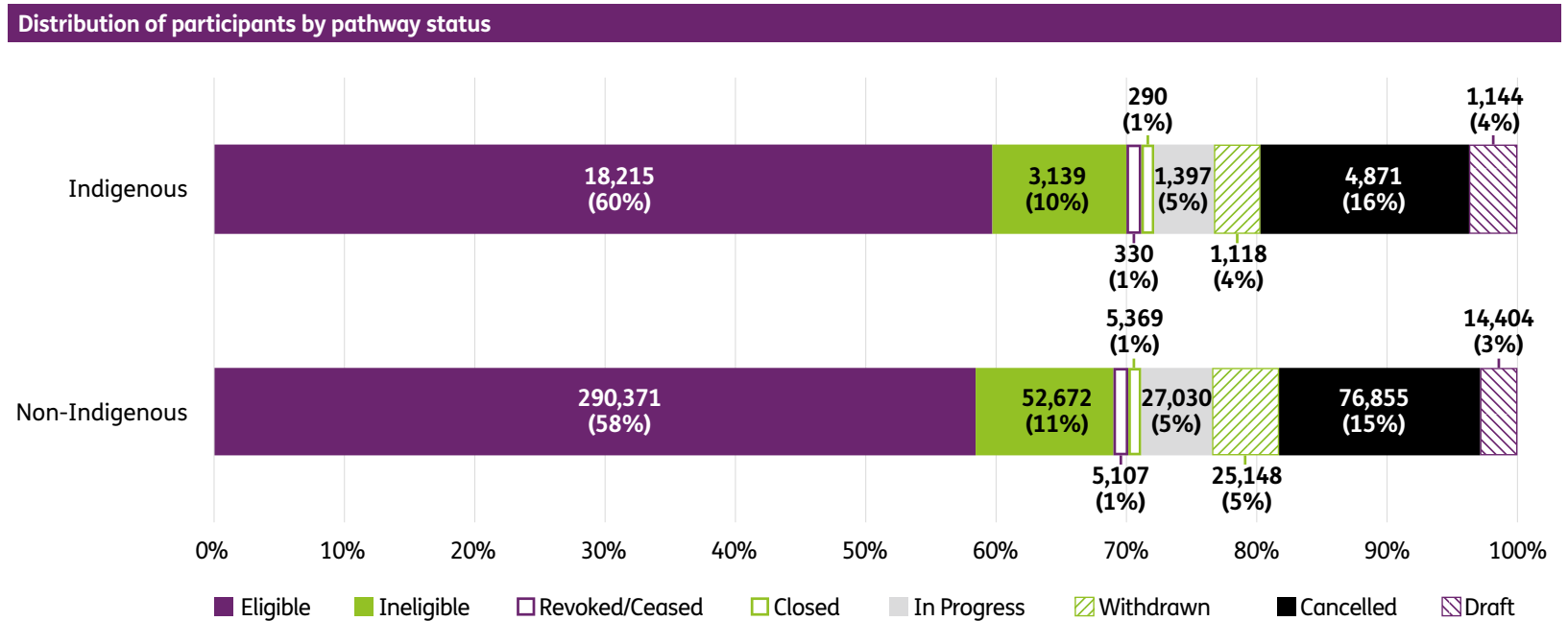
The proportion of Indigenous participants in the NDIS has been lower than expected across all age groups. The scheme is over half way towards reaching a steady intake state and it is possible phasing order impacts the mix of participants. The number of participants with missing or ‘not stated’ Indigenous status also continues to be a limitation when comparing actual experience against expected.

Note: The SDAC and Census measures of disability are not necessarily consistent with each other nor consistent with the conditions for eligibility for the NDIS, but are helpful for comparing between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.

Access and eligibility

Comparison of Indigenous
and non-Indigenous participant
experience

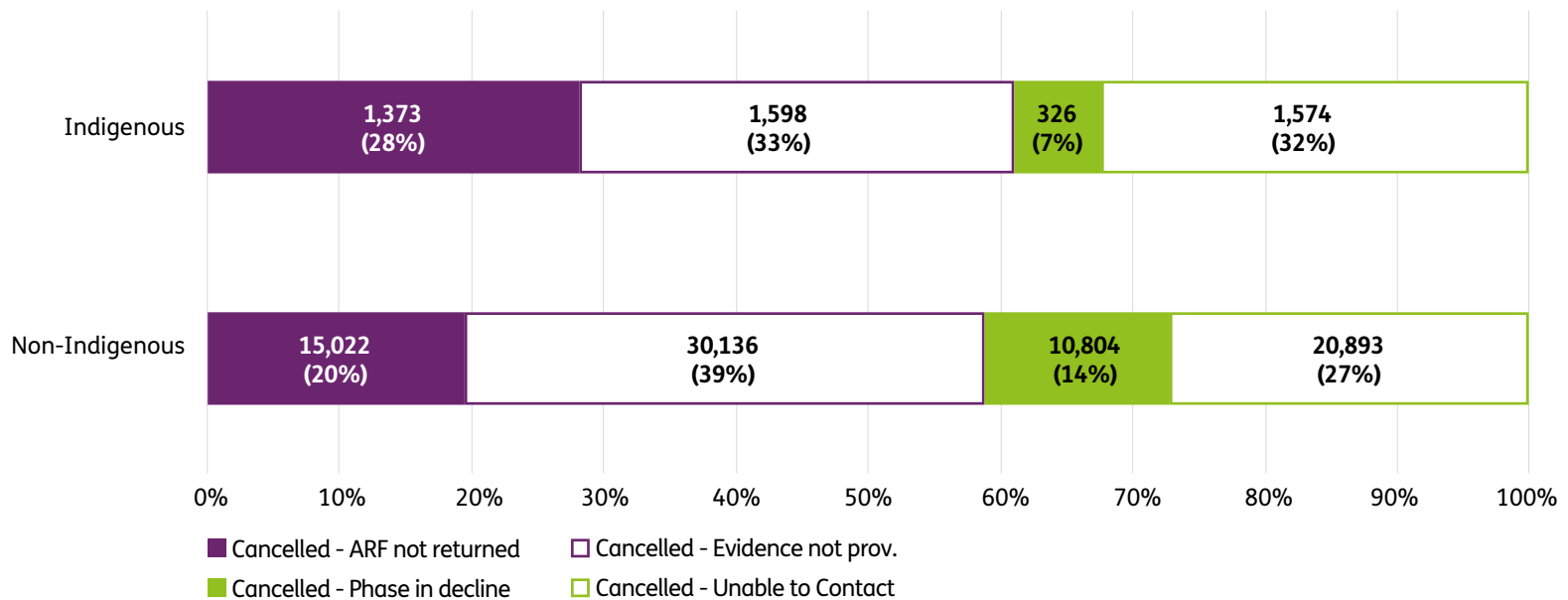
Phasing process



The distribution of Indigenous participants by pathway status is broadly consistent with the distribution of non-Indigenous participants by pathway status.

Phasing progress – cancellations

Distribution of cancelled access requests by pathway status

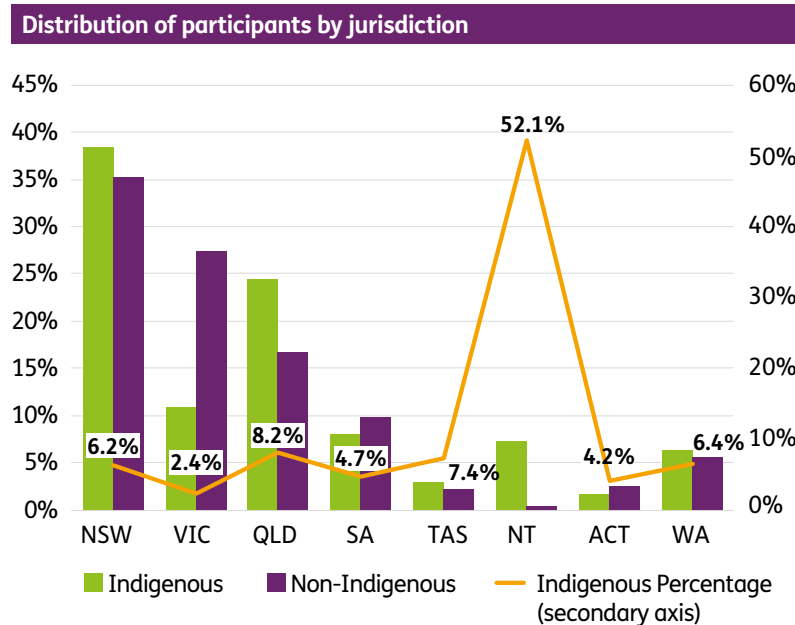


A larger proportion of Indigenous participants have cancelled access requests arising from “Access Request Form (ARF) not returned” and “Unable to contact” compared to non-Indigenous participants.

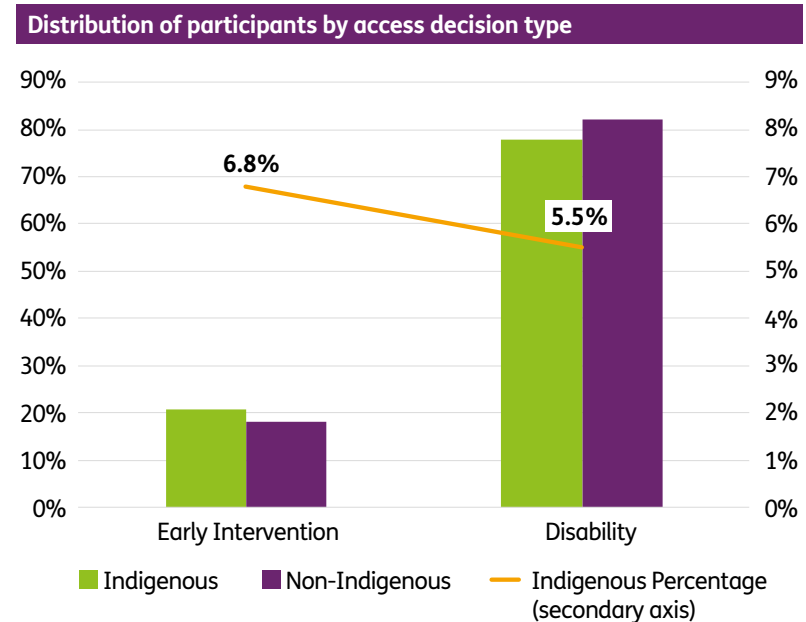
Participant characteristics

Comparison of Indigenous
and non-Indigenous participant
experience

Active participants by: Jurisdiction and access decision type



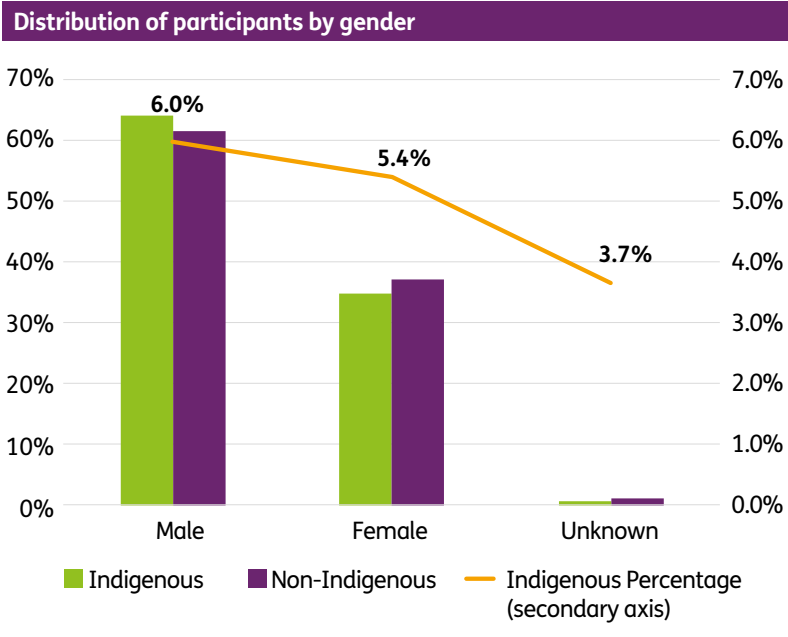
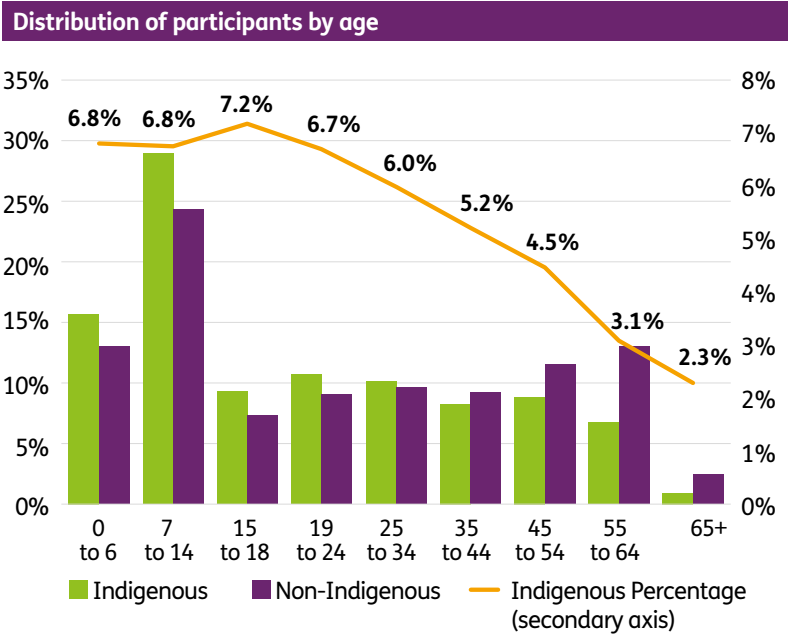
Compared to non-Indigenous participants, a significantly larger proportion of Indigenous participants live in the Northern Territory, and a significantly lower proportion live in Victoria.



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, a larger proportion of Indigenous participants are accessing the Scheme via early intervention. This is primarily driven by the higher proportion of Indigenous participants who are aged 0 to 14, compared to non-Indigenous participants, as the percentage of participants who access the Scheme via early intervention is significantly higher at younger ages.

Note: The distributions are calculated excluding active participants with a missing classification.

Active participants by: Age and gender

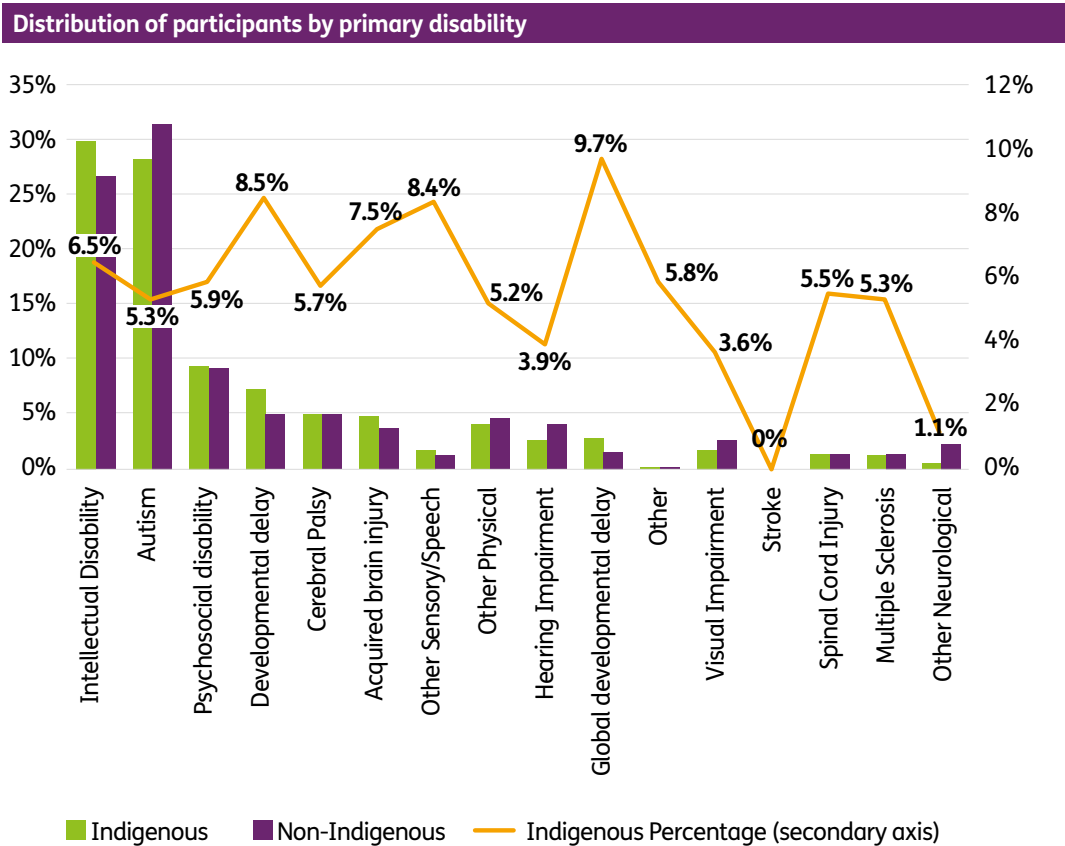


Indigenous participants have tended to be younger compared to non-Indigenous participants. In particular, a higher proportion of Indigenous participants are aged 0 to 34, and a lower proportion are aged 35 or over.

Compared to non-Indigenous participants, a higher proportion of Indigenous participants are male.

Note: The distributions are calculated excluding active participants with a missing classification.

Active participants by: Disability type

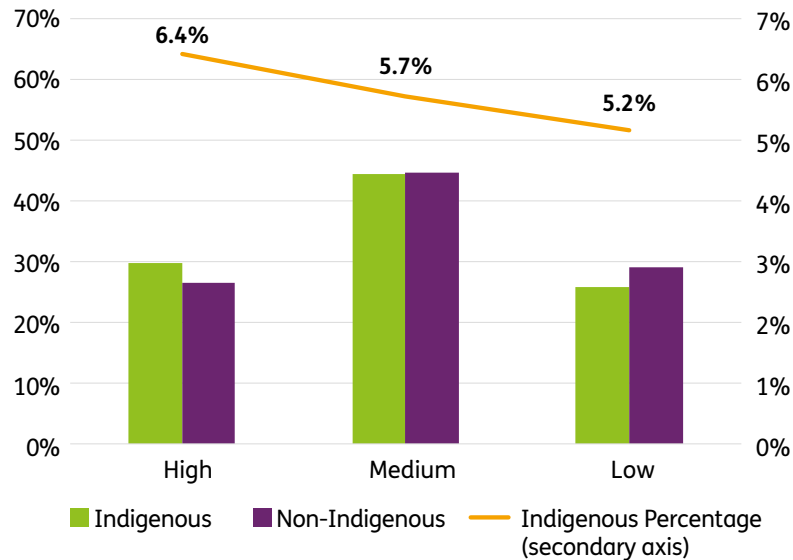


Compared to non-Indigenous participants, a larger proportion of Indigenous participants have a primary intellectual disability, developmental delay or global developmental delay.

Note: The distribution is calculated excluding active participants with a missing classification.

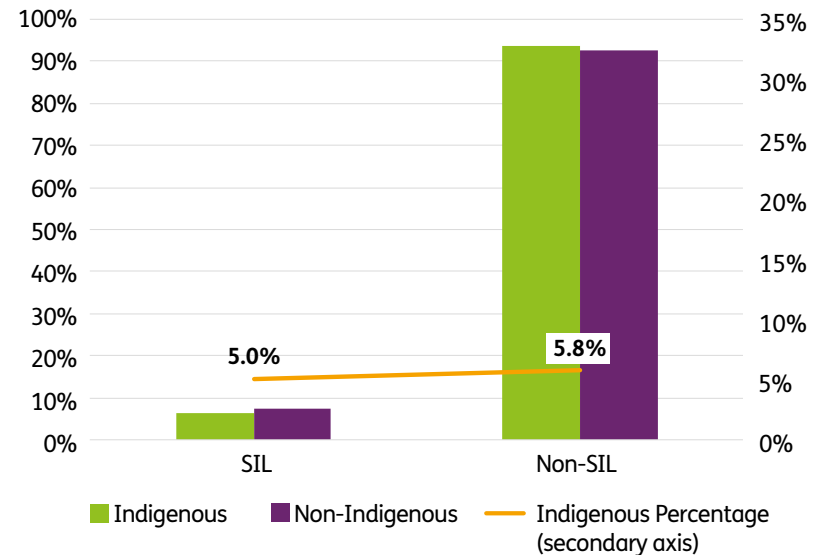
Active participants by: Level of function and SIL status

Distribution of participants by level of function



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants are more likely to have a high level of function, and are less likely to have a medium or low level of function.

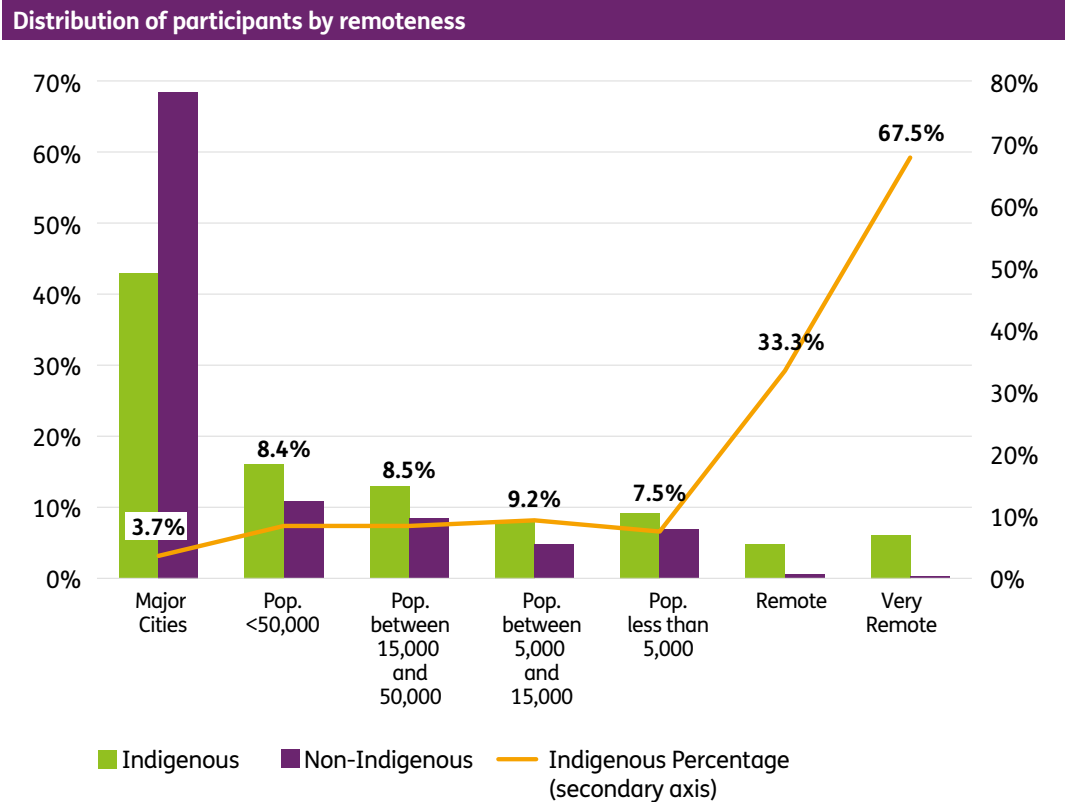
Distribution of participants by SIL status



The proportion of Indigenous participants with SIL in their plans is slightly lower than the proportion of non-Indigenous participants with SIL in their plans. The proportion of participants with SIL in their plans is the same for Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants aged 25 and over (15% for both groups).

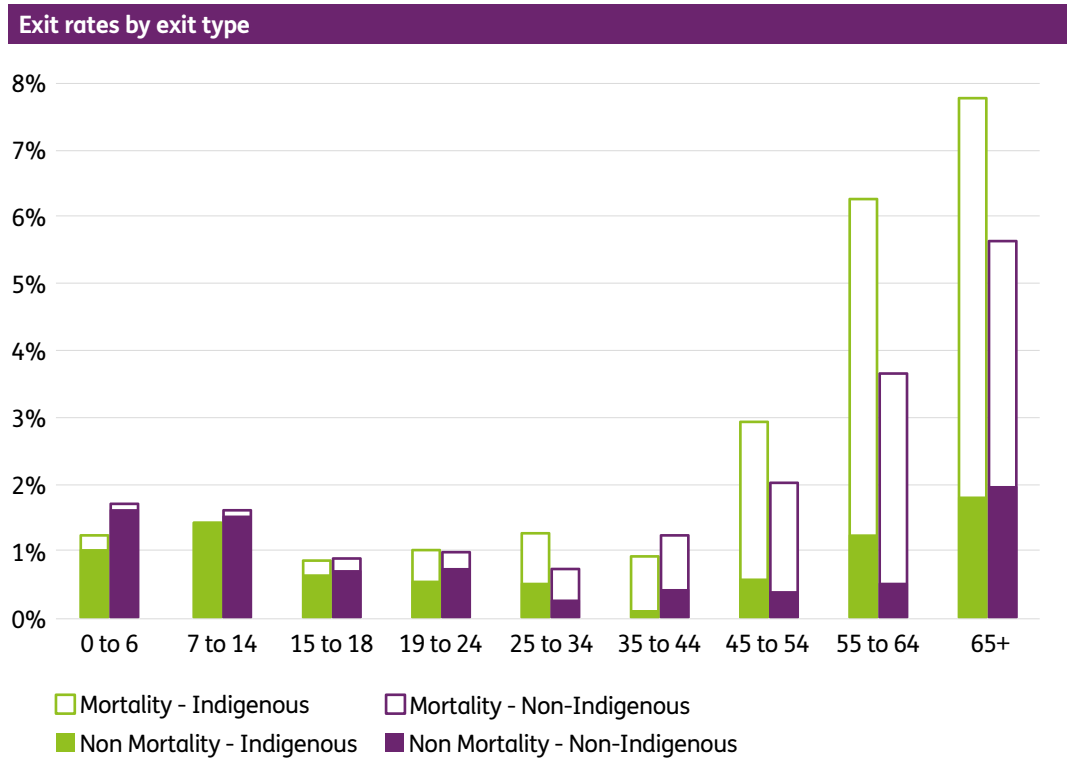
Note: The distributions are calculated excluding active participants with a missing classification.

Active participants by: Remoteness



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, a significantly higher proportion of Indigenous participants live in 'Remote' or 'Very Remote' regions, and a significantly lower proportion live in 'Major Cities'.

Note: The distribution is calculated excluding active participants with a missing classification.

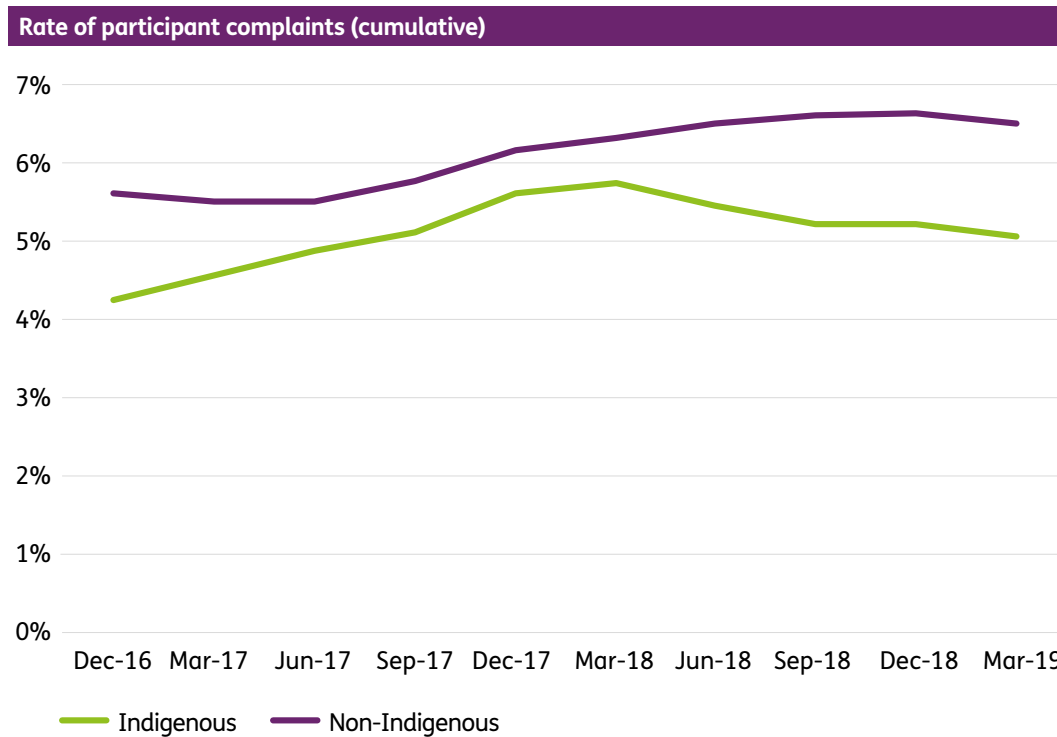


Compared to non-Indigenous participants, exit rates for Indigenous participants are:

- Lower for ages 0 to 18 and ages 35 to 44, driven by lower non-mortality exit rates
- Higher for ages 19 to 34 and ages 45 and over, driven by higher mortality exit rates

Note 1: Due to the low volumes and the reporting lag associated with exits from the scheme, caution should be exercised when interpreting these numbers.
 Note 2: A non-mortality exit occurs when participant exits the scheme because they no longer meet the eligibility criteria or if they cease their participation.

Complaint rates



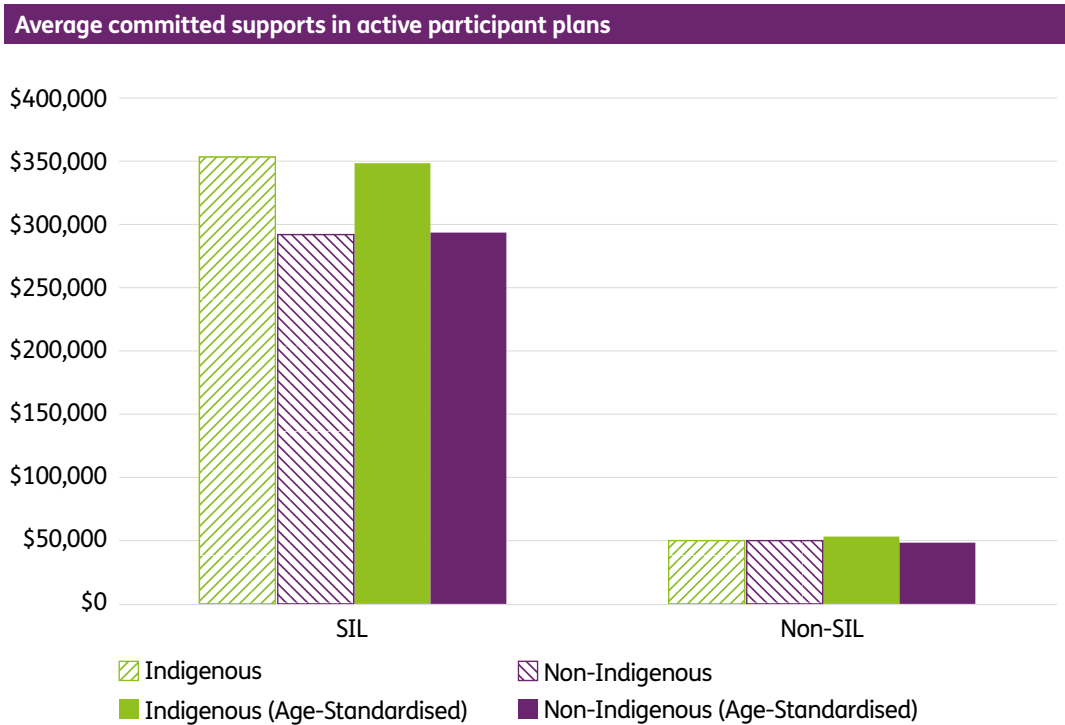
Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants have had a lower rate of complaint across all quarters. The complaint rate for Indigenous participants peaked at 5.7% in March 2018 and has fallen steadily since then to 5.1% at March 2019. The complaint rate for non-Indigenous participants was increasing over the same period, only decreasing in the most recent quarter.

Note 1: The complaint rate is calculated as the number of complaints made to date divided by the exposure to date. Exposure to date represents the total amount of time an access request has been active, measured in years, summed across all participants and people who have ever made an access request.
Note 2: Complaint rates have been standardised for the difference between the remoteness and age profiles of Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants and the remoteness and age profiles of the total population.

Average committed supports

Comparison of Indigenous and non-Indigenous participant experience

Average committed supports by: SIL status



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants have higher average committed supports, for both SIL and non-SIL participants.

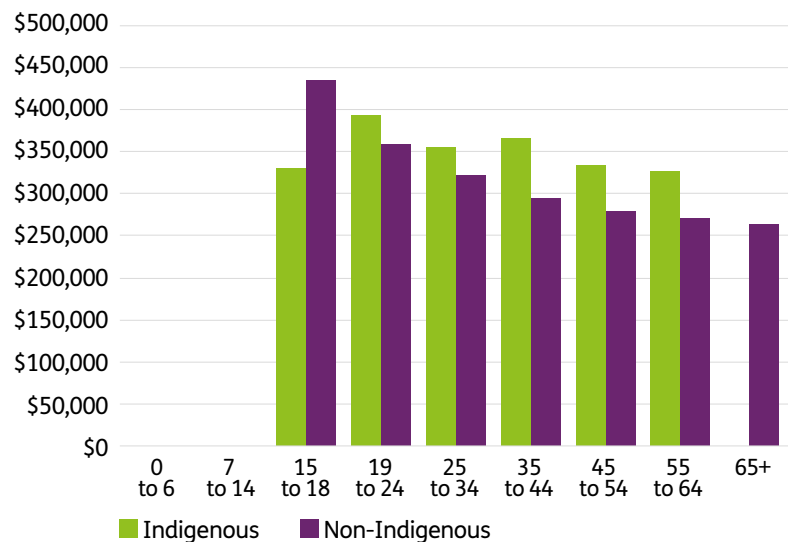
Average committed supports are significantly higher for SIL participants than for non-SIL participants.

Note 1: The age-standardised average committed supports have been standardised for the difference between the age profiles of Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.

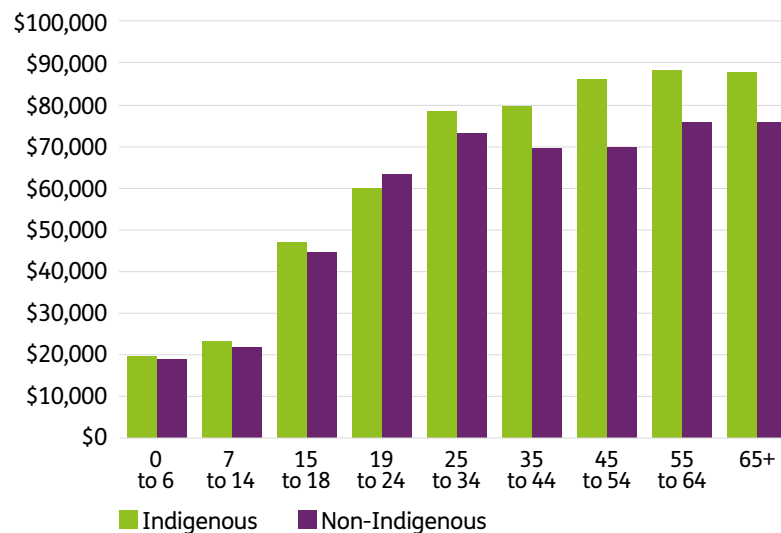
Note 2: Average committed supports are the average annualised committed supports allocated to active plans at 30 June 2019.

Average committed supports by: Age

Average committed supports in active SIL participant plans



Average committed supports in active non-SIL participant plans



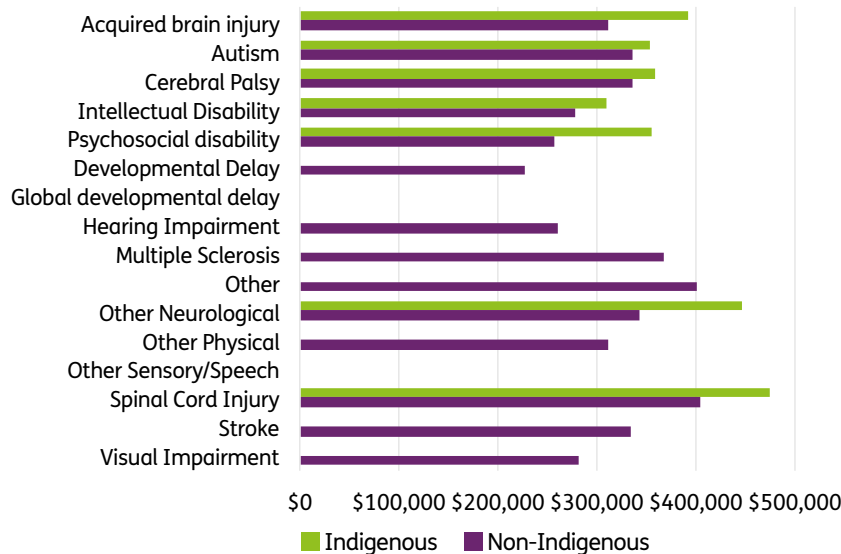
Compared to non-Indigenous participants, average committed supports for Indigenous participants are:

- Lower for SIL participants aged 15 to 18
- Higher for SIL participants aged 19 and over
- Higher for non-SIL participants in all age groups except 19 to 24

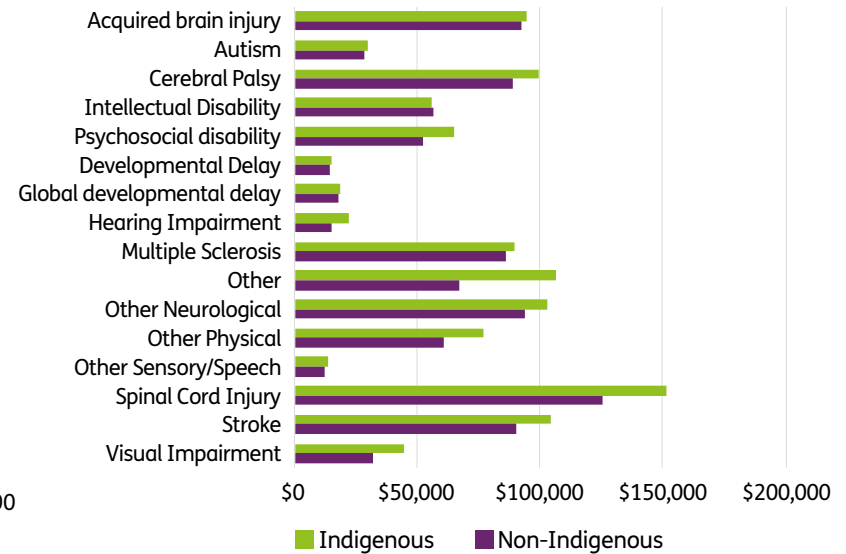
Note: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group. Data is deemed insufficient if there are 10 or fewer participants in the category.

Average committed supports by: Disability type

Average committed supports in active SIL participant plans



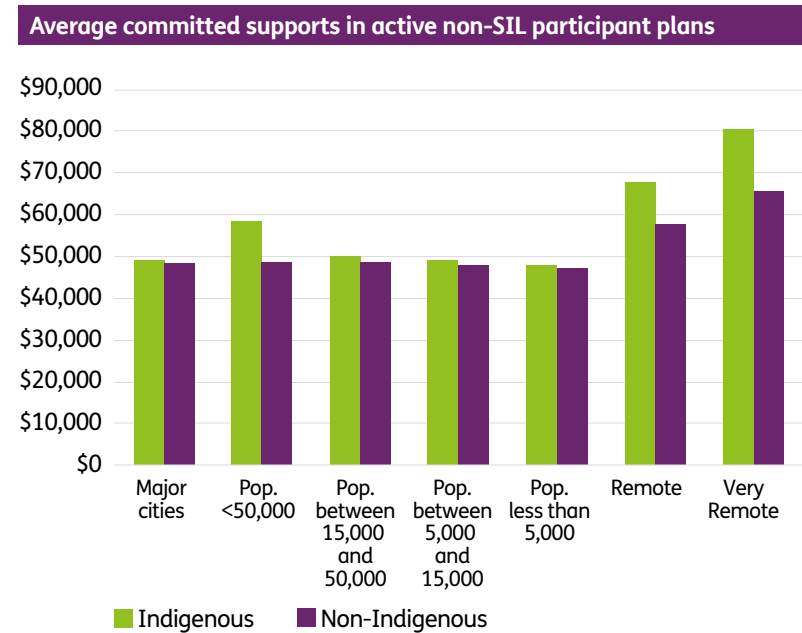
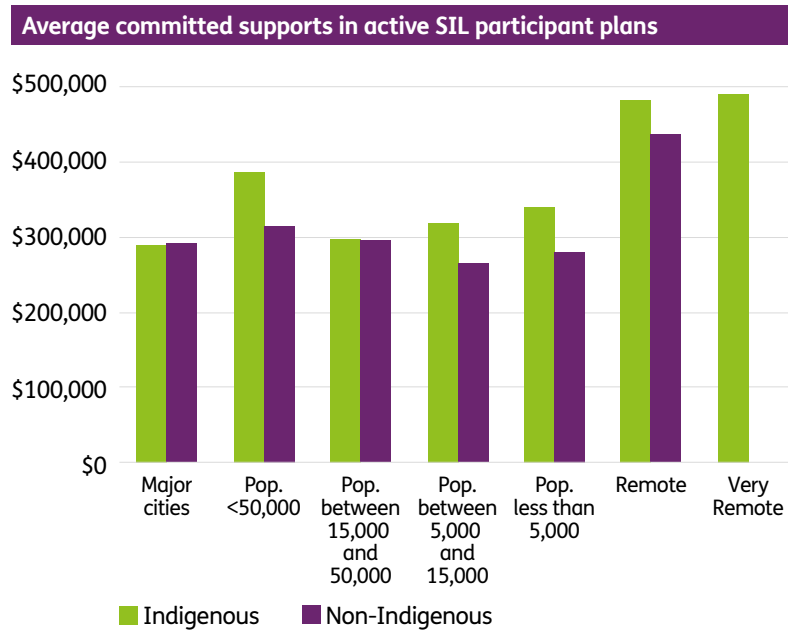
Average committed supports in active non-SIL participant plans



Compared to non-Indigenous participants average committed supports for Indigenous participants are higher across all disability types. In particular, average committed supports for Indigenous participants with a psychosocial disability or spinal cord injury are higher than those of non-Indigenous participants.

Note 1: Average committed supports have been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.
 Note 2: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Average committed supports by: Remoteness



For both SIL and non-SIL participants, average committed supports are higher amongst Indigenous participants across all remoteness categories compared to non-Indigenous participants

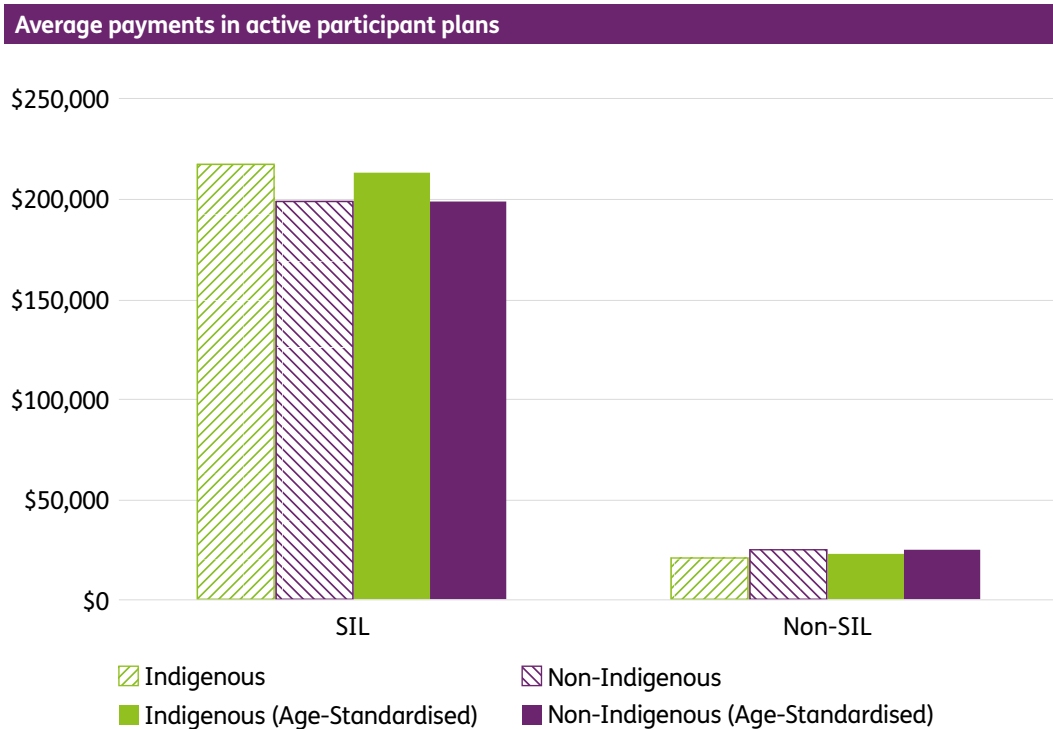
Note 1: Average committed supports have been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.

Note 2: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Average payments

Comparison of Indigenous
and non-Indigenous participant
experience

Average payments by: SIL status



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants with SIL supports have higher average payments.

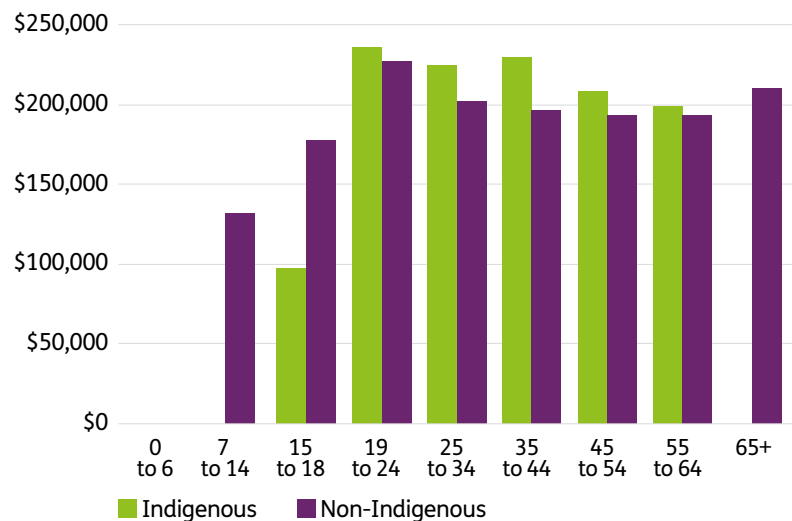
Conversely, Indigenous participants without SIL supports have lower payments on average compared to non-Indigenous participants.

Note 1: The age-standardised average payments have been standardised for the difference between the age profiles of Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.

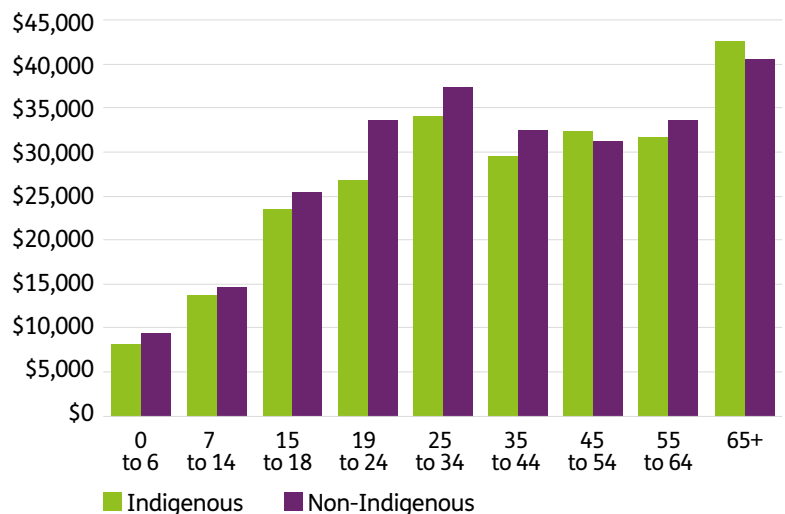
Note 2: Average payments represent the average cash and in-kind supports paid over the 2018-19 financial year on active plans at 30 June 2019.

Average payments by: Age

Average payments in active SIL participant plans



Average payments in active non-SIL participant plans



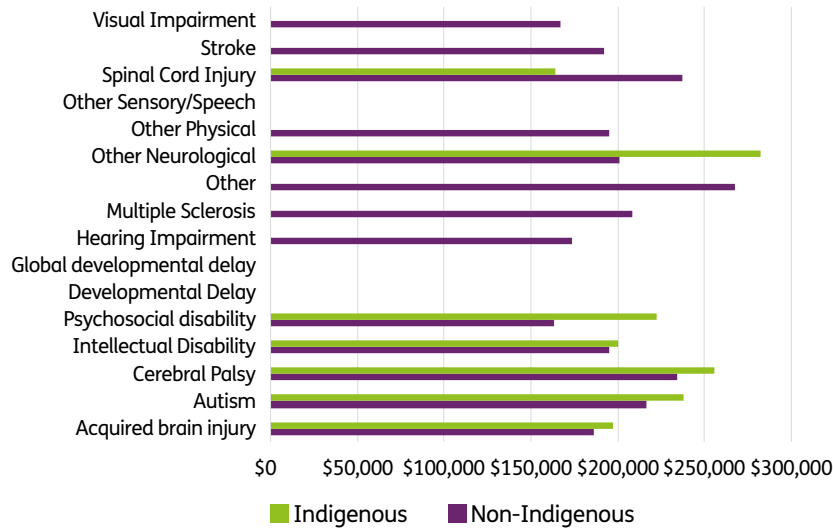
Compared to non-Indigenous participants, average payments for Indigenous participants are:

- Lower for SIL participants aged 15 to 18
- Higher for SIL participants aged 19 and over
- Lower for non-SIL participants in all age groups except for the 45 to 54 age group and participants aged 65 and over

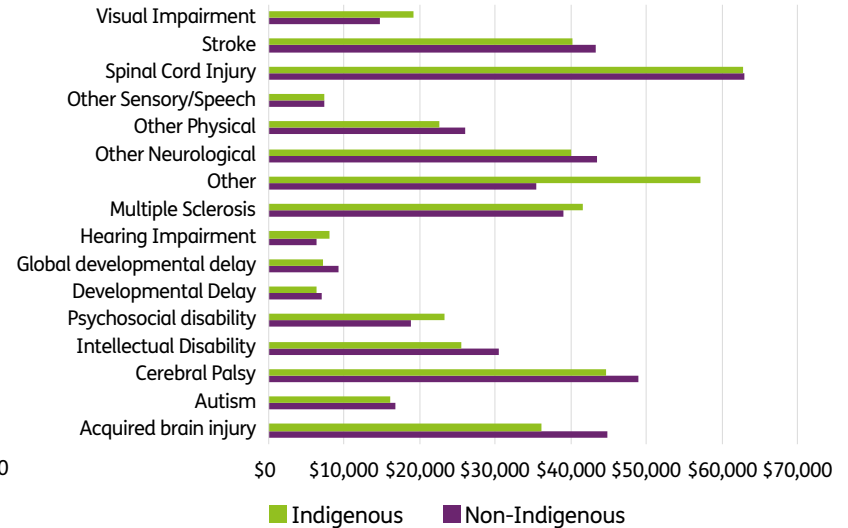
Note: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group. Data is deemed insufficient if there are 10 or fewer participants in the category.

Average payments by: Disability type

Average payments in active SIL participant plans



Average payments in active non-SIL participant plans



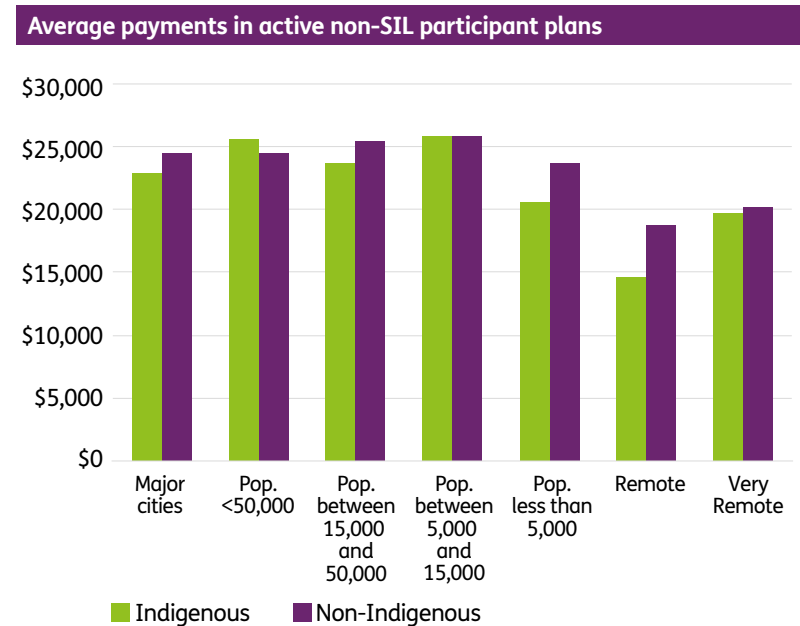
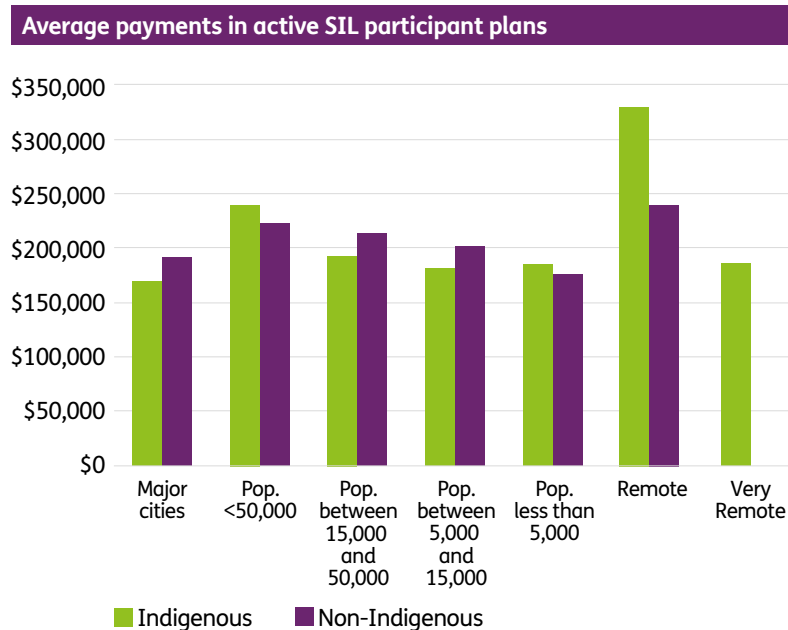
Average payments by disability type are higher amongst Indigenous SIL participants compared to non-Indigenous participants across most disability types.

Conversely, average payments are lower amongst non-SIL Indigenous participants across most disability types compared to non-Indigenous participants.

Note 1: Average payments have been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.

Note 2: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Average payments by: Remoteness



Compared to non-Indigenous SIL participants, average payments for Indigenous SIL participants are lower across most categories, but notably higher in remote areas.

For non-SIL participants, average payments are lower across most categories of remoteness amongst Indigenous participants compared to non-Indigenous participants.

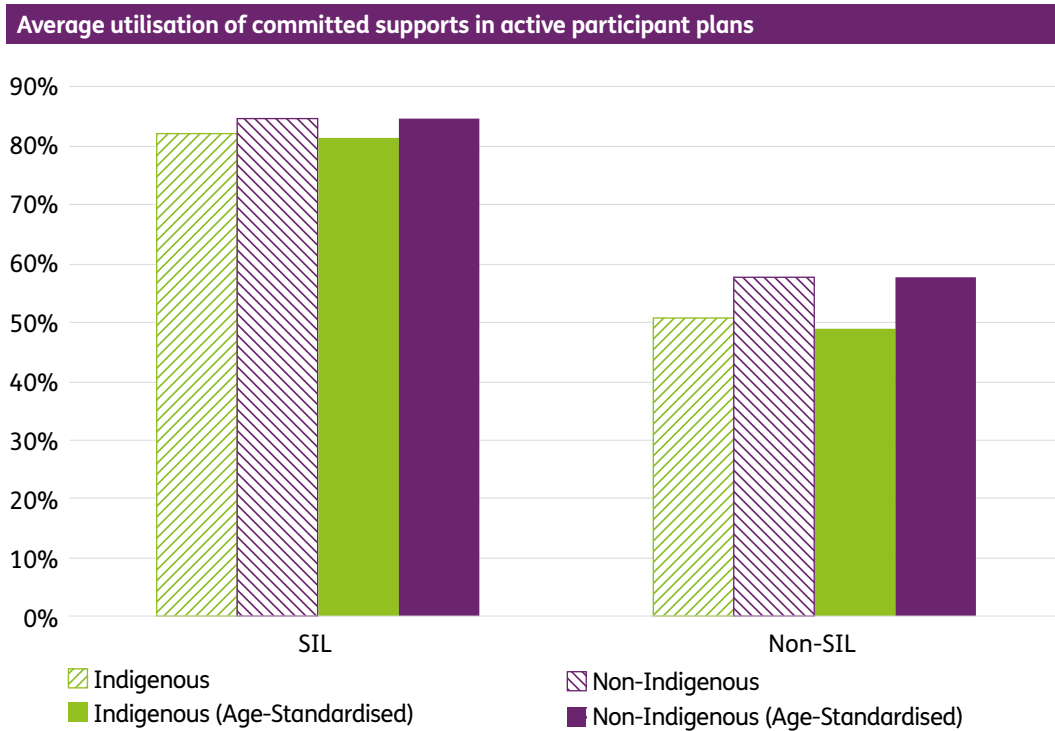
Note 1: Average payments have been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.

Note 2: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Utilisation of committed supports

Comparison of Indigenous
and non-Indigenous participant
experience

Utilisation of committed supports by: SIL status

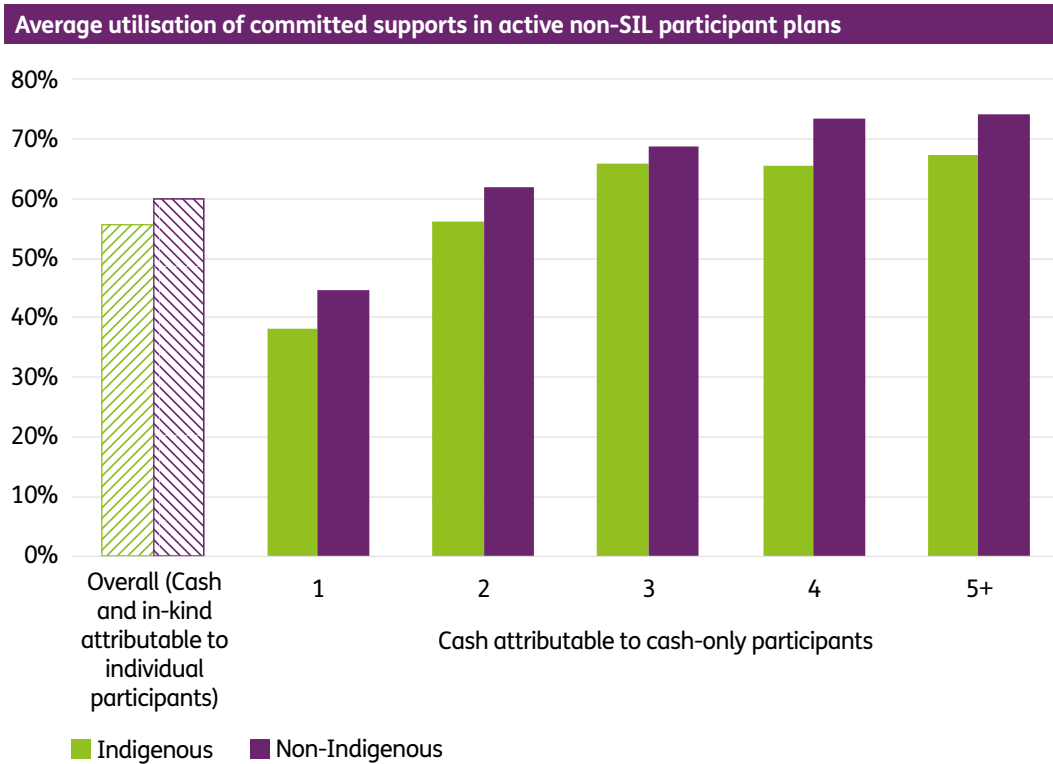


Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants have lower average utilisation for both SIL and non-SIL.

Standardising for age has little impact on the average utilisation of committed supports.

Note: For the current slide and all following slides, average utilisation of committed supports is shown for the period beginning 1 October 2018 and ending 31 March 2019 and has been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population. While remoteness and time in the scheme are known drivers of lower utilisation, standardising for these factors have a minimal impact on average utilisation rates (in the order of 1%).

Utilisation of committed supports by: Plan number



For both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants, utilisation increases with plan number.

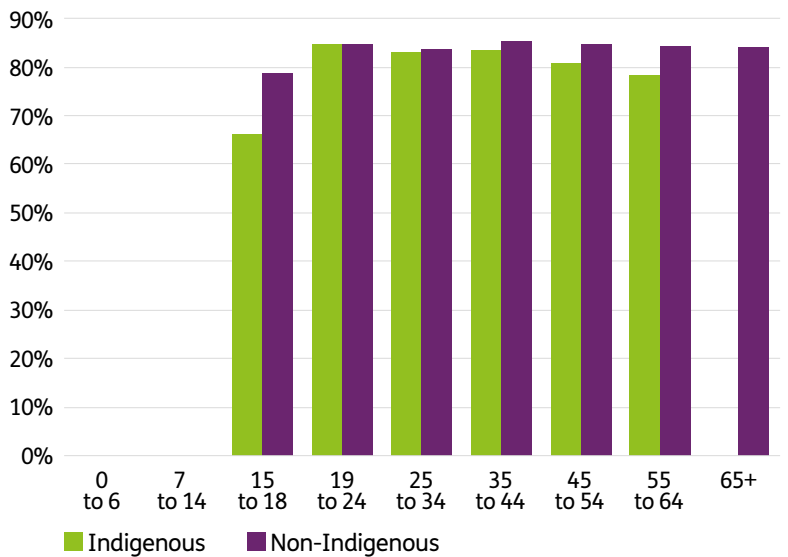
The difference between the average utilisation of Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants is relatively similar across all plan numbers.

Note 1: Average utilisation of committed supports has been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.

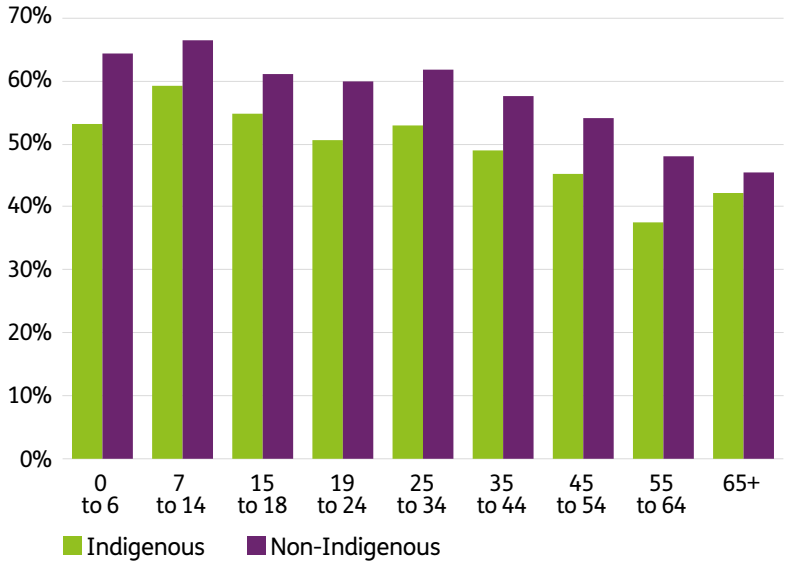
Note 2: For utilisation by plan number, participants receiving in-kind supports are excluded as it is not possible to accurately separate in-kind payments and committed amounts between plans. Only utilisation for non-SIL participants are shown due to insufficient data for SIL participants. The overall level of utilisation includes in-kind supports and is not directly comparable to utilisation by plan number.

Utilisation of committed supports by: Age

Average utilisation of committed supports in active SIL participant plans



Average utilisation of committed supports in active non-SIL participant plans

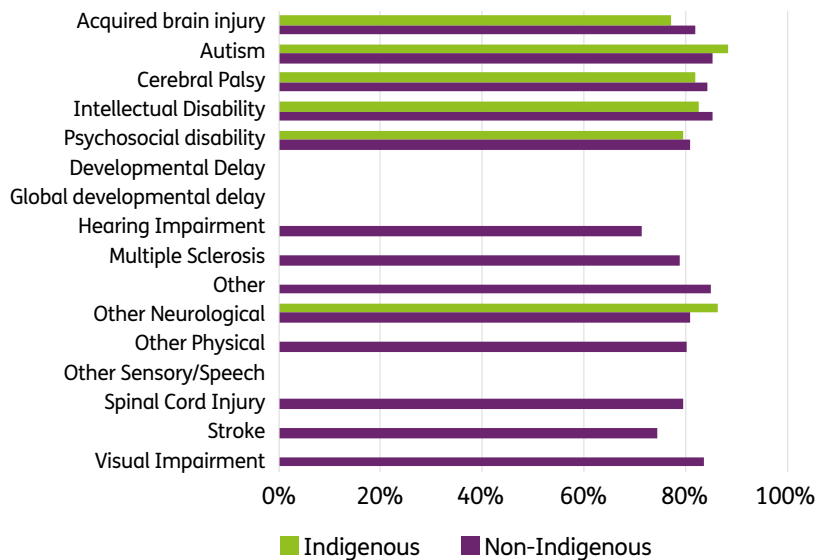


Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants have lower average utilisation in every age group, for both SIL and non-SIL participants.

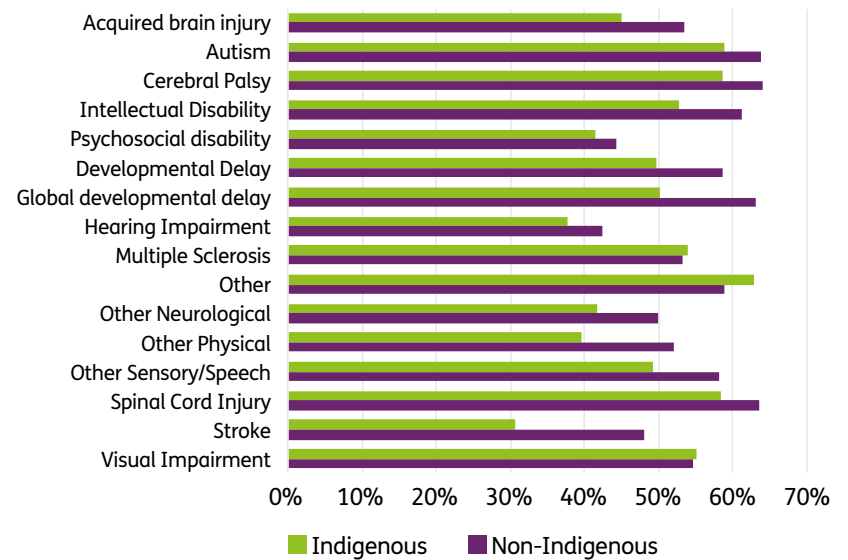
Note: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Utilisation of committed supports by: Disability type

Average utilisation of committed supports in active SIL participant plans



Average utilisation of committed supports in active non-SIL participant plans



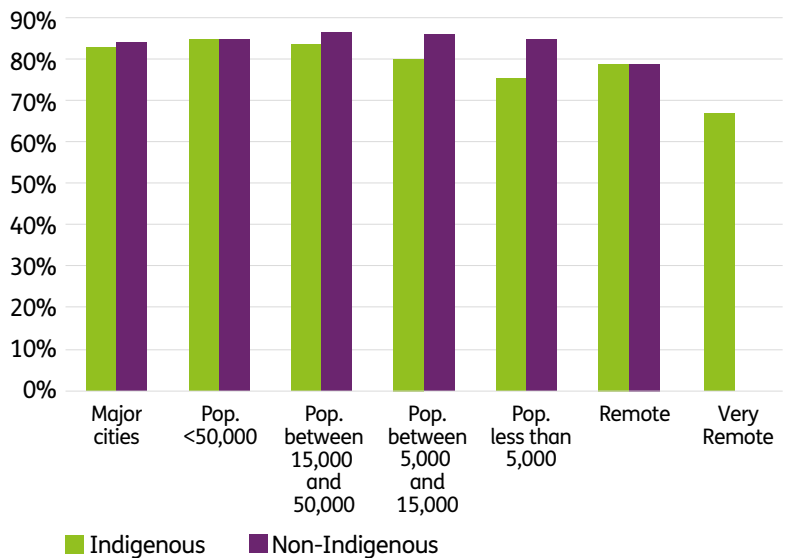
Compared to non-Indigenous participants, average utilisation of committed supports is lower for Indigenous participants across almost all disability types, with exceptions being multiple sclerosis, other disabilities, visual impairment, and, for SIL participants only, autism and other neurological disabilities.

Note 1: Average utilisation of committed supports has been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.

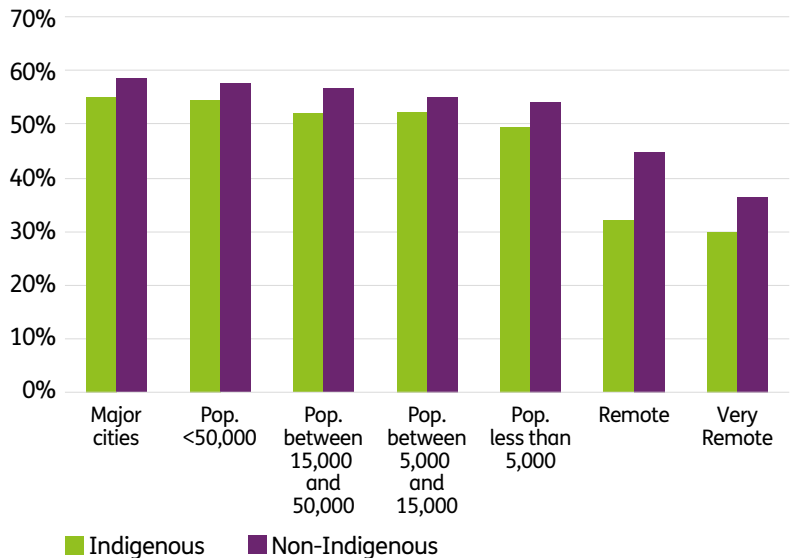
Note 2: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Utilisation of committed supports by: Remoteness

Average utilisation of committed supports in active SIL participant plans



Average utilisation of committed supports in active non-SIL participant plans



The difference between the average utilisation for Indigenous and non-Indigenous non-SIL participants increases with remoteness. Utilisation for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous non-SIL participants decreases with remoteness.

Note 1: Average utilisation of committed supports has been standardised for the difference between the age profile of Indigenous / non-Indigenous participants and the age profile of the total population.
 Note 2: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Participant outcomes

Comparison of Indigenous
and non-Indigenous participant
experience

Methodology for analysing outcomes

Measures of participant outcomes



Baseline outcomes

Measures how participants and their families and carers are going at their point of entry into the NDIS.

Information on outcomes is collected during pre-planning for participants who entered the Scheme from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2019. Of these participants, baseline outcomes were recorded for 99% of Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants.

Longitudinal outcomes

Describes how outcomes have changed for participants between their point of entry into the NDIS and after their first year in the Scheme. For participants aged 15 and over, changes in employment and social and community participation outcomes are also considered after their second year.

Longitudinal outcomes are reported for participants who entered the Scheme between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2018.

Has the NDIS helped?

Measures whether participants think that the NDIS has helped in areas related to specific outcome domains.

This information has been collected after the first and second plan reviews for participants who entered the Scheme between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2018.

Baseline outcomes and remoteness



Prior research¹ has shown that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote or very remote areas have poorer outcomes in several areas of health and welfare compared to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in non-remote areas.

Furthermore, 28% of Indigenous participants living in remote or very remote areas have a language other than English as their preferred language, compared to 1% of Indigenous participants in non-remote areas. This may impact the ability of Indigenous participants in remote communities to access the Scheme and engage with disability service providers.

As a result, baseline outcomes² for Indigenous participants have also been analysed by the remoteness status of the participant.³

¹ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2015. The health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 2015. Cat. no. IHW 147. Canberra: AIHW

² There is currently insufficient longitudinal data to credibly analyse longitudinal outcomes by both Indigenous status and remoteness

³ As defined by categories 6 and 7 in the Modified Monash Model 2015

Outcome domains



Outcomes are analysed to understand how participants and their families and carers are progressing in different areas (domains) of their lives. The domains that are relevant to the participant differ by age group:

Domain name	Children 0 to before starting school	Children starting school to age 14	Young adults 15 to 24	Adults 25 and over
Daily living (DL)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Choice and control (CC)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Relationships (REL)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social, community and civic participation (S/CP)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lifelong learning (LL)		✓	✓	✓
Health and wellbeing (HW)			✓	✓
Home (HM)			✓	✓
Work (WK)			✓	✓

Outcomes and mainstream services

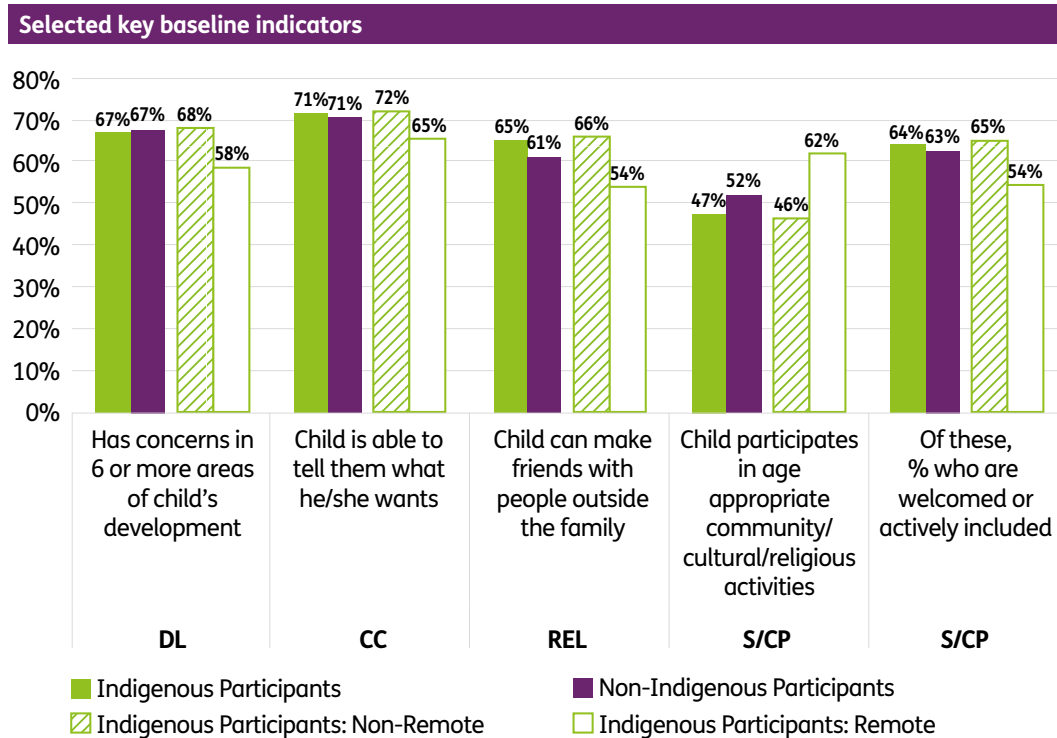


Mainstream services are the government systems providing services to the Australian public, including health, mental health, education, justice, housing, child protection and employment. The NDIS supports people with a disability to access mainstream services, but is not intended to replace them.

Some of the domains included in the outcomes framework, such as home, health and wellbeing, lifelong learning and work may reflect participant's experiences with mainstream services that are not the primary responsibility of the NDIS. However, they are included in the measurement of outcomes to provide a fuller picture of participants' circumstances.

Participants from 0 to before
starting school

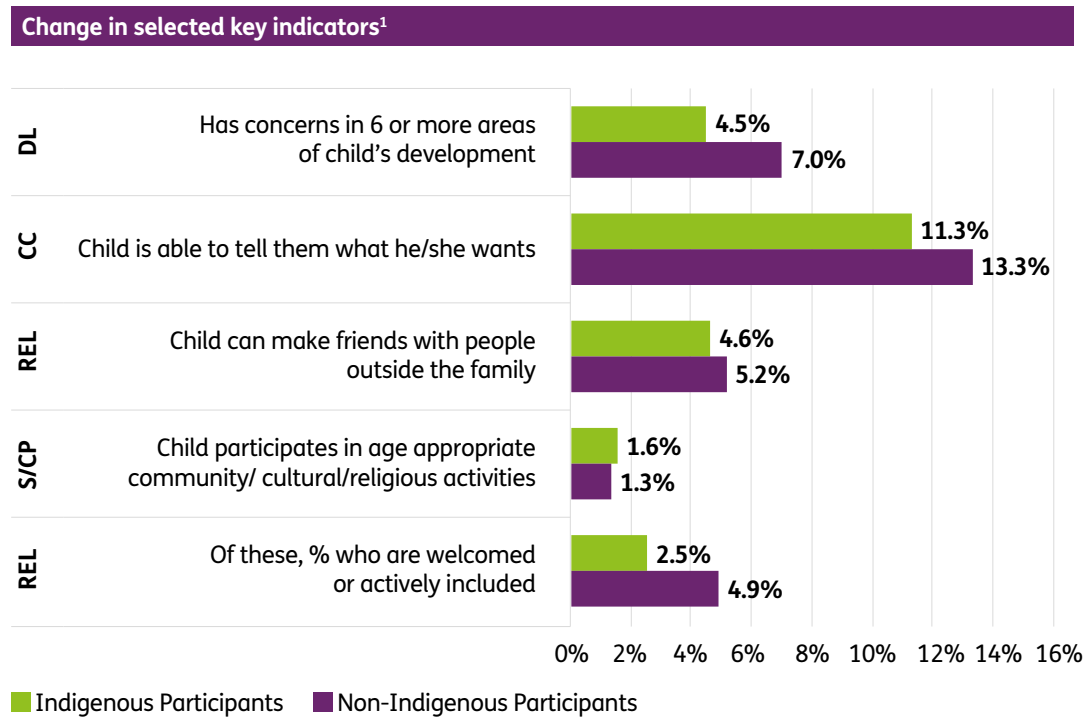
Participants aged 0 to starting school: Baseline outcomes



At baseline, the parents and carers of Indigenous participants reported better relationship outcomes but worse social participation outcomes for their child compared to the parents/carers of non-Indigenous participants.

Indigenous participants in remote areas had the highest rate of participation in community/ cultural/religious activities of all groups.

Participants aged 0 to starting school: Longitudinal outcomes



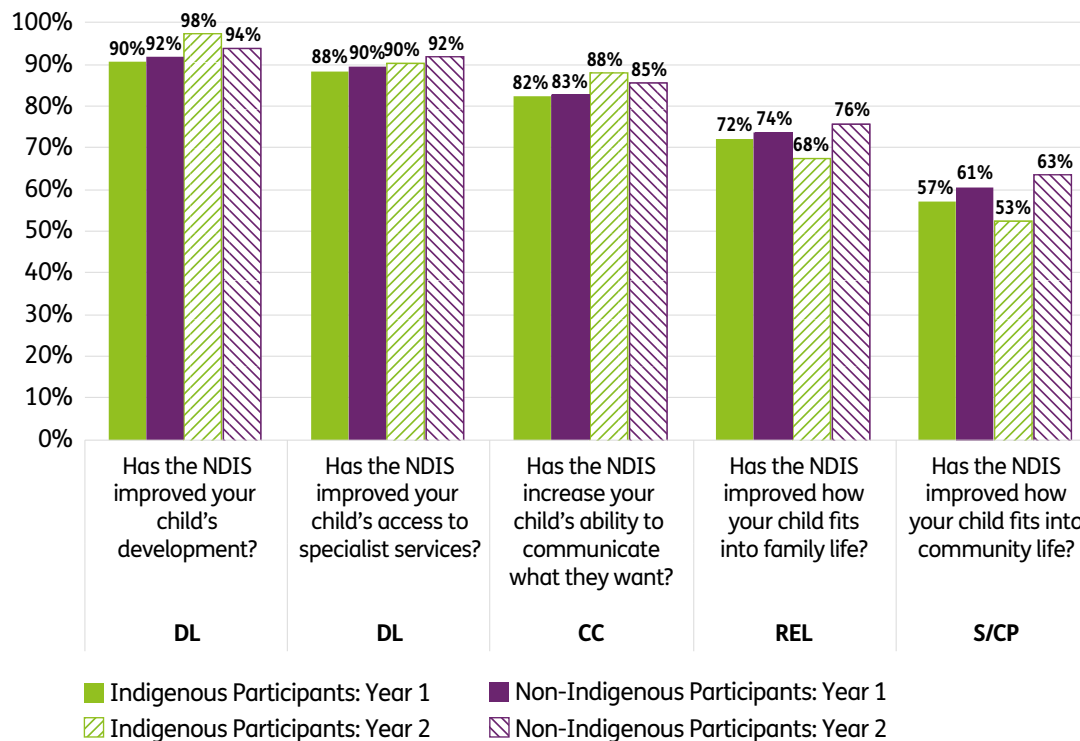
After one year in the Scheme, the parents/carers of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants reported improvements in most of the outcome domains, the largest improvement being made in the choice and control domain.

However, improvements in outcomes were slightly smaller for Indigenous participants compared to non-Indigenous participants with the exception of social and community participation.

¹At least some of the change may be normal age-related development as children are one year older at review.

Participants aged 0 to starting school: Has the NDIS helped?

Proportion of participants who responded 'yes' to the 'Has the NDIS helped?' questions¹



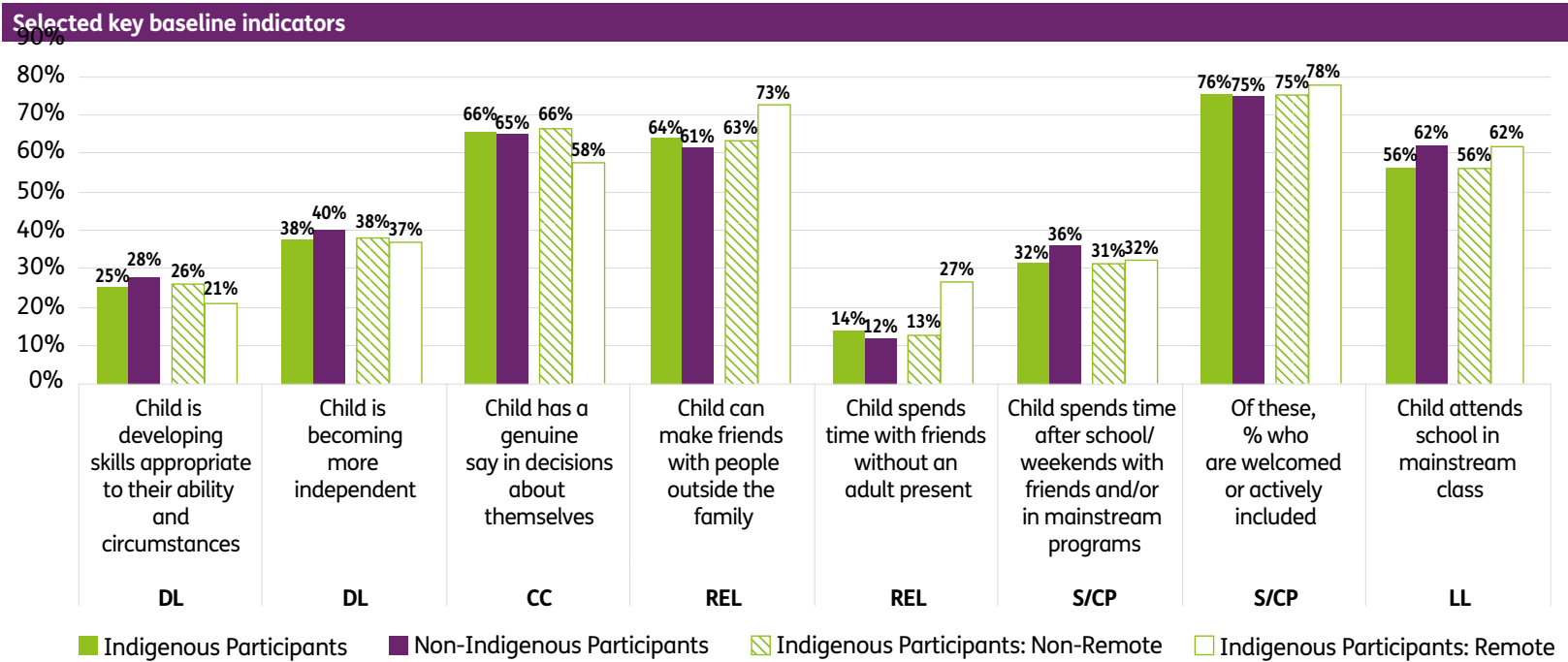
For the parents and carers of Indigenous participants, perceptions of the NDIS have improved between year one and year two in the daily living and choice and control domains, but deteriorated in the relationship and social participation domains.

In general, parents and carers of Indigenous participants were less likely to perceive that the NDIS had helped their child compared to the parents and carers of non-Indigenous participants across each of the outcome domains.

¹ Results for Indigenous participants in Year 2 should be interpreted with caution as numbers are small.

Participants from starting school
to age 14

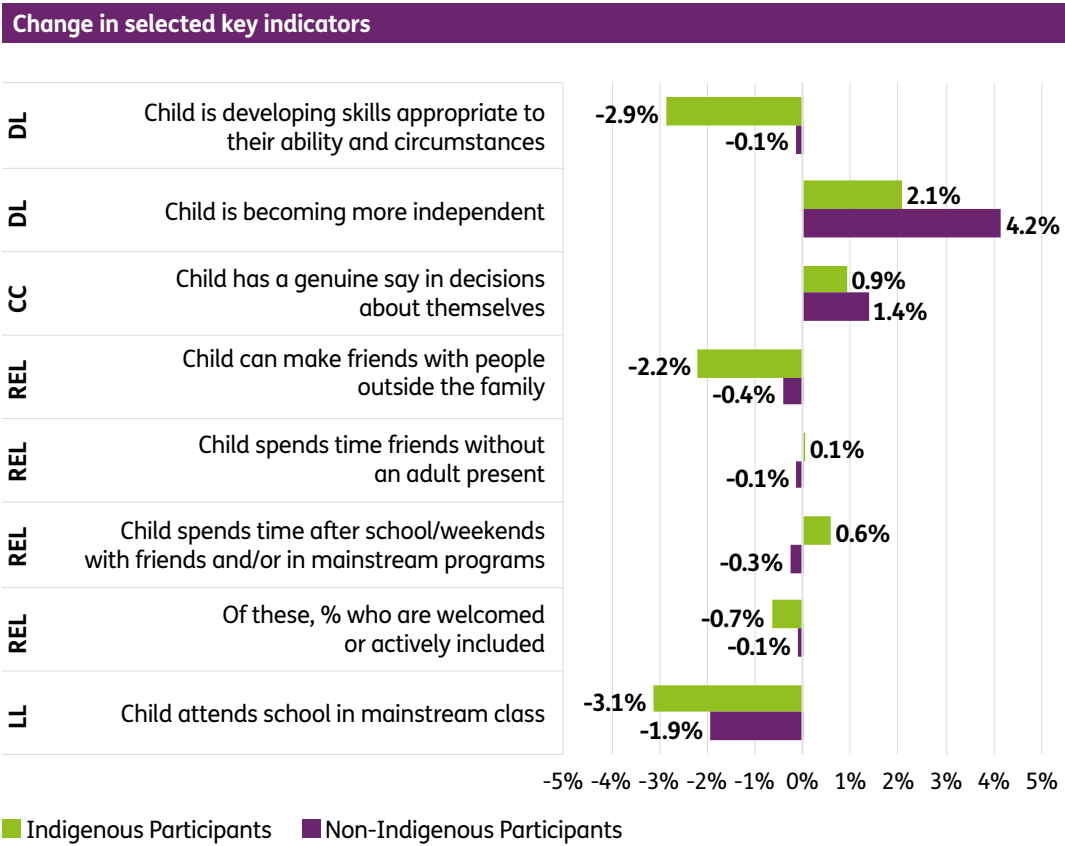
Participants from starting school to age 14: Baseline outcomes



At baseline, the parents and carers of Indigenous participants reported better relationship outcomes for their child compared to non-Indigenous participants, being highest for those in remote communities.

However, Indigenous participants had poorer social participation outcomes, were less likely to be developing skills appropriate to their ability and circumstances, and had lower attendance in mainstream classes, compared to non-Indigenous participants.

Participants from starting school to age 14: Longitudinal outcomes

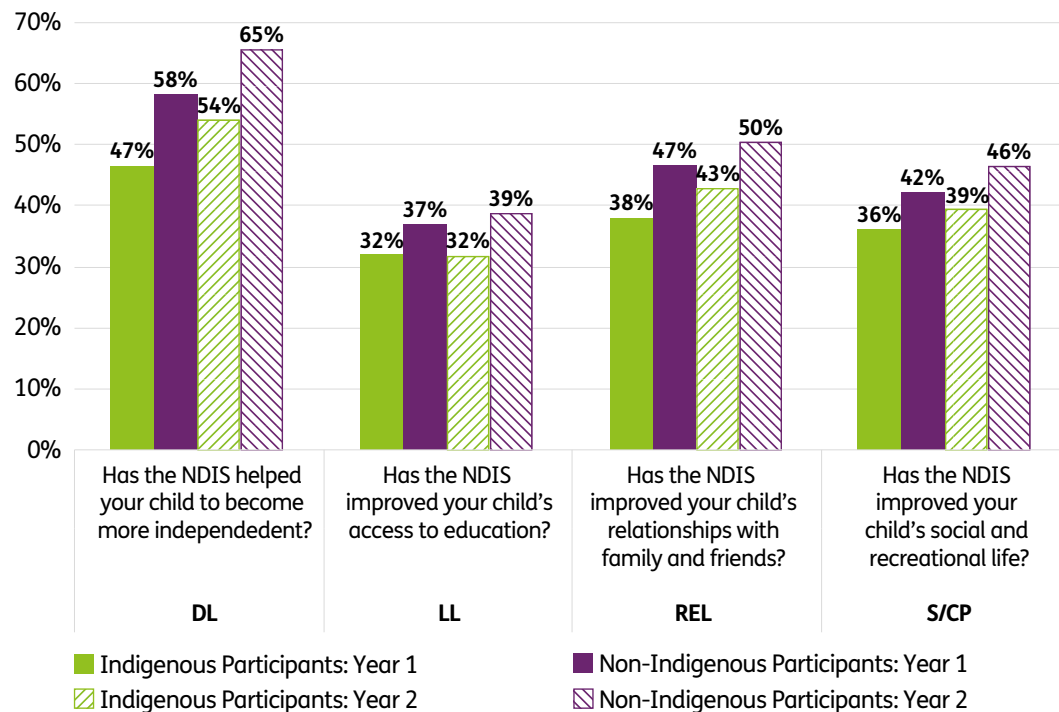


After one year in the Scheme, the parents and carers of Indigenous participants reported a deterioration in their child’s ability to develop appropriate skills, make friends with people outside the family, and their attendance in mainstream classes.

The parents and carers of non-Indigenous participants also reported deteriorations in these outcomes, however the size of the change was larger for Indigenous participants.

Participants from starting school to age 14: Has the NDIS helped?

Proportion of participants who responded 'yes' to the 'Has the NDIS helped?' questions

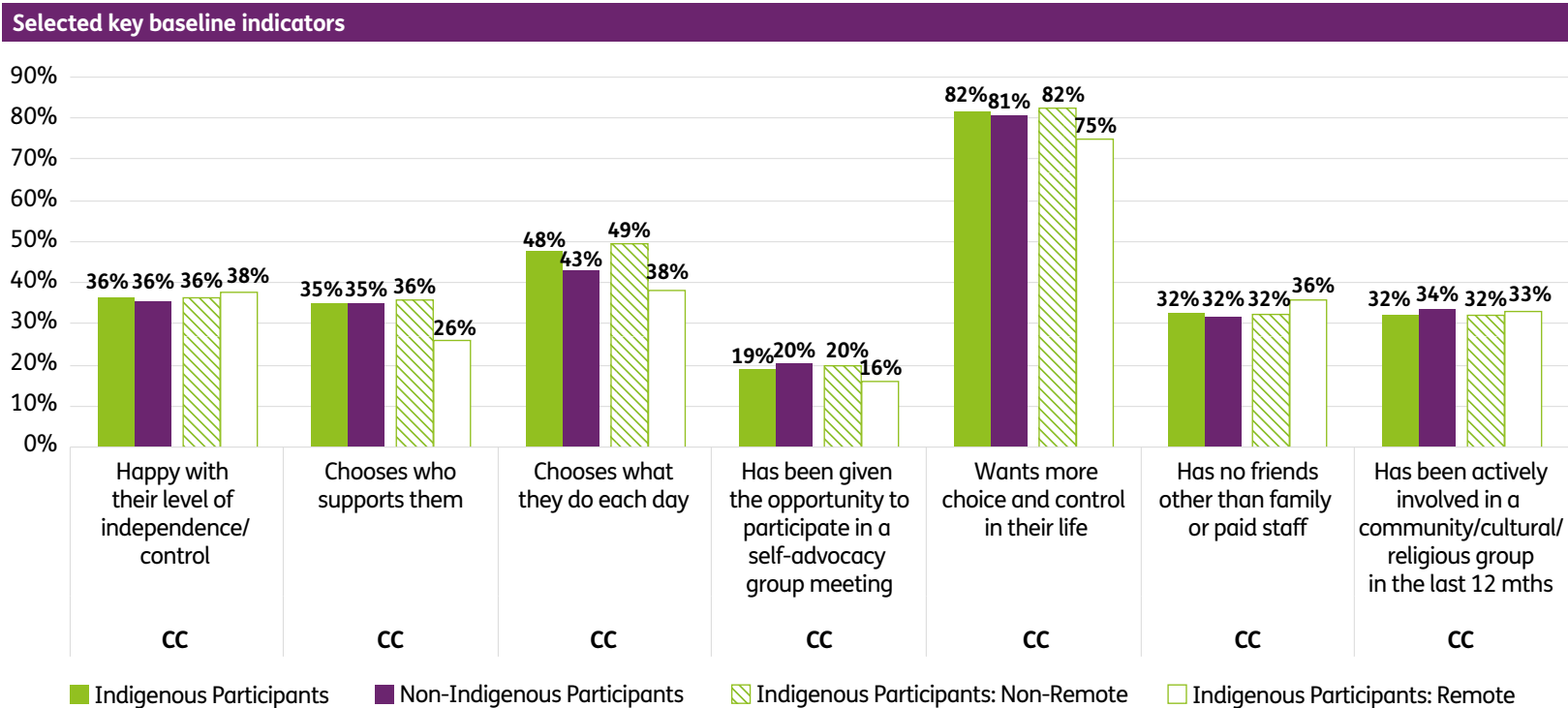


For the parents and carers of Indigenous participants, perceptions of the NDIS have improved between year one and year two in all outcome domains with the exception of education.

Across each review year, the parents and carers of Indigenous participants were less likely to perceive that the NDIS had helped their child in each of the outcome domains compared to the families and carers of non-Indigenous participants.

Participants aged 15 to 24

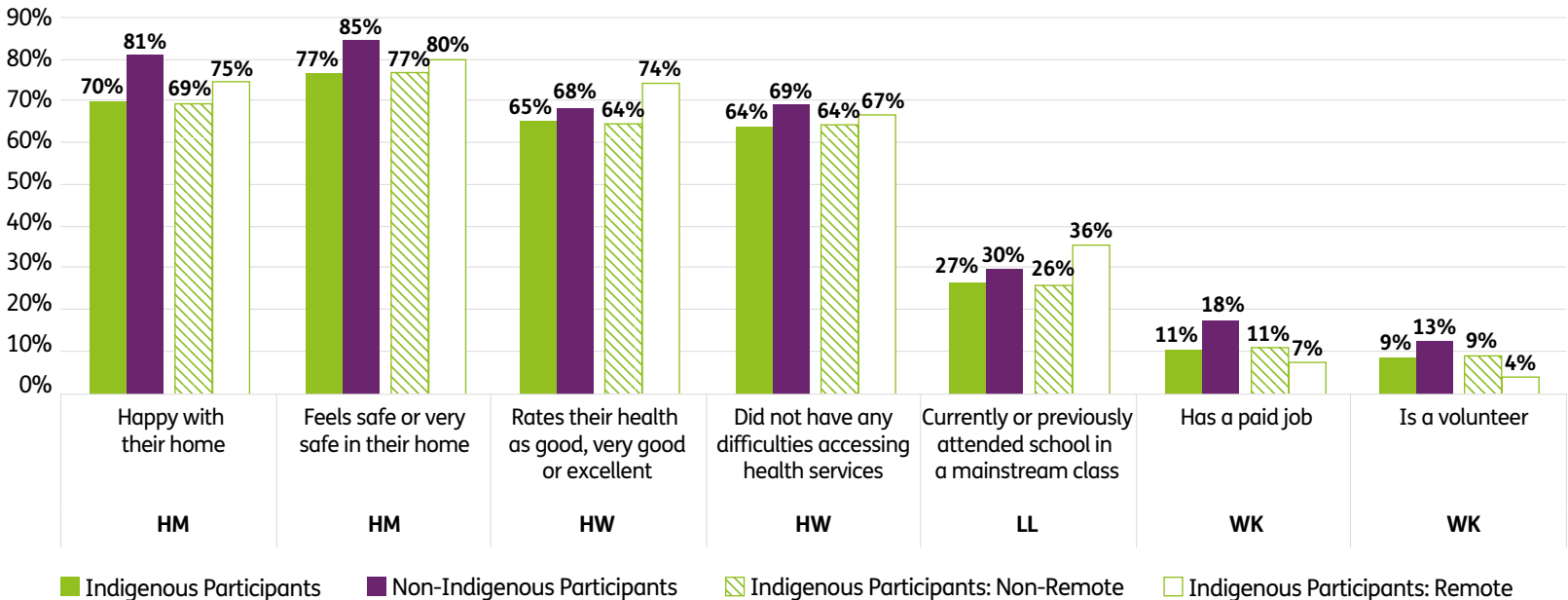
Participants aged 15 to 24: Baseline outcomes (1)



More Indigenous participants reported that they were able to choose what they do each day at baseline compared to non-Indigenous participants. However, Indigenous participants in remote communities were considerably less likely to choose what they do each day and choose who supports them compared to all other participants.

Participants aged 15 to 24: Baseline outcomes (2)

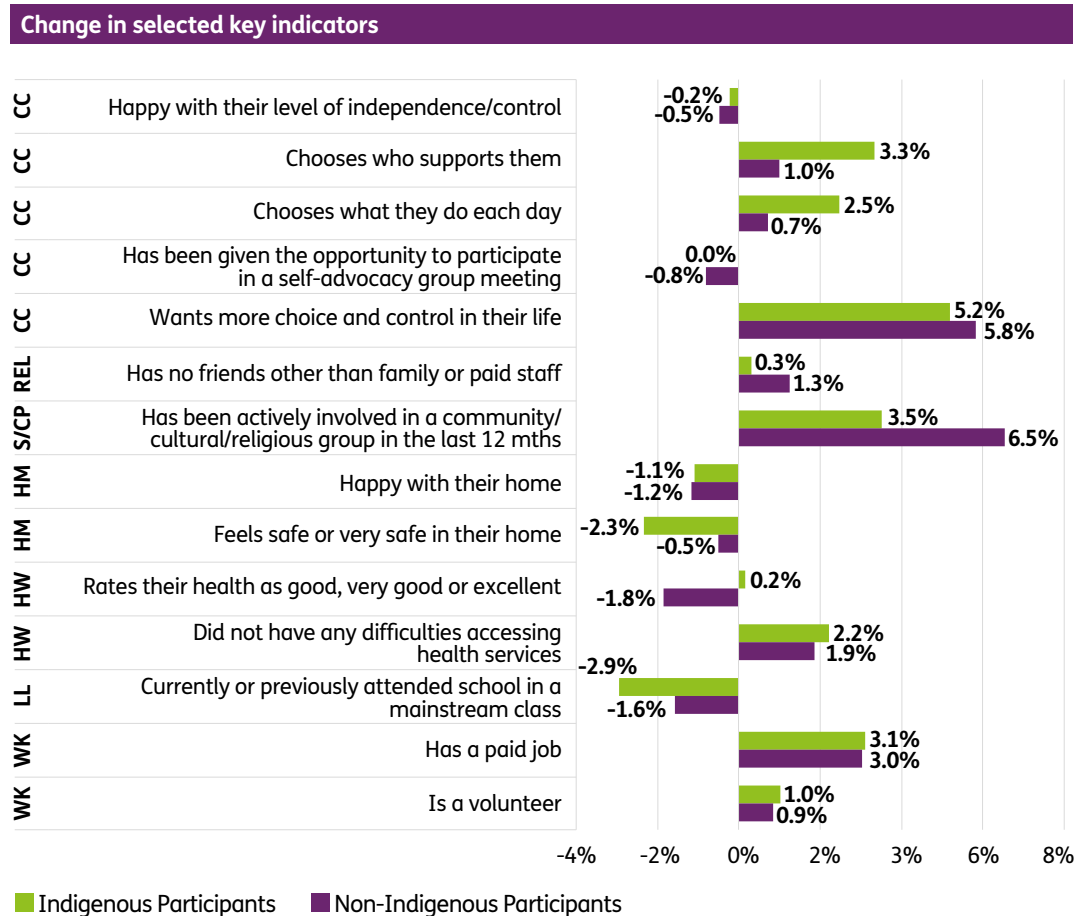
Selected key baseline indicators



Indigenous participants reported considerably worse outcomes in the home and work domains at baseline compared to non-Indigenous participants. Health and lifelong learning outcomes were also poorer for Indigenous participants.

Indigenous participants in remote communities were the least likely to have a paid job or be a volunteer at baseline compared to all other participant groups, but were the most likely to rate their health as good, very good or excellent.

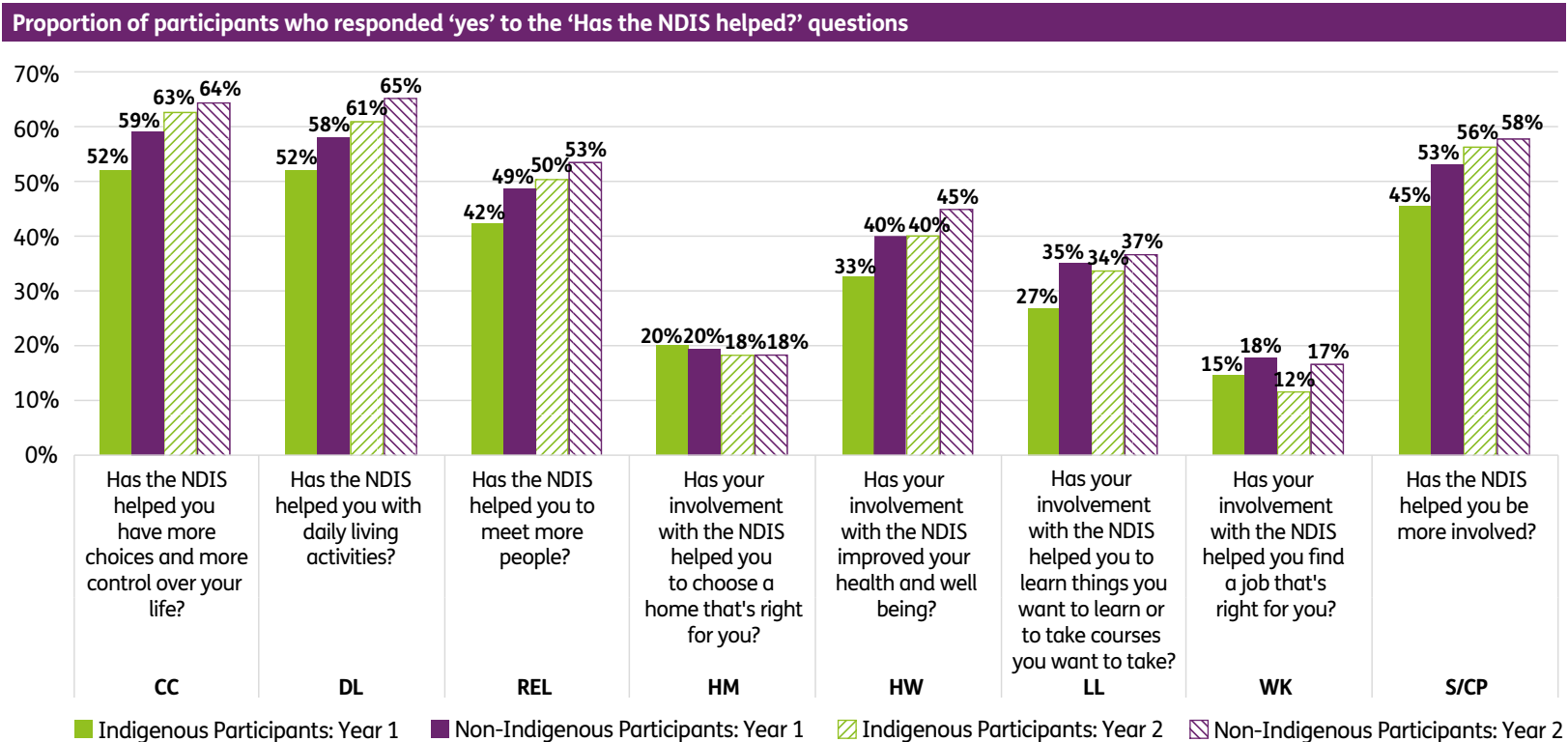
Participants aged 15 to 24: Longitudinal outcomes



After one year in the Scheme, Indigenous participants increased their rates of paid employment and community participation by +3% and +4%, respectively. However, the rate of improvement in community participation was just over half the equivalent increase for non-Indigenous participants.

Indigenous participants also reported improvements in their ability to choose who supports them and to choose what they do each day, and this was higher than the equivalent rate of improvement for non-Indigenous participants.

Participants aged 15 to 24: Has the NDIS helped?

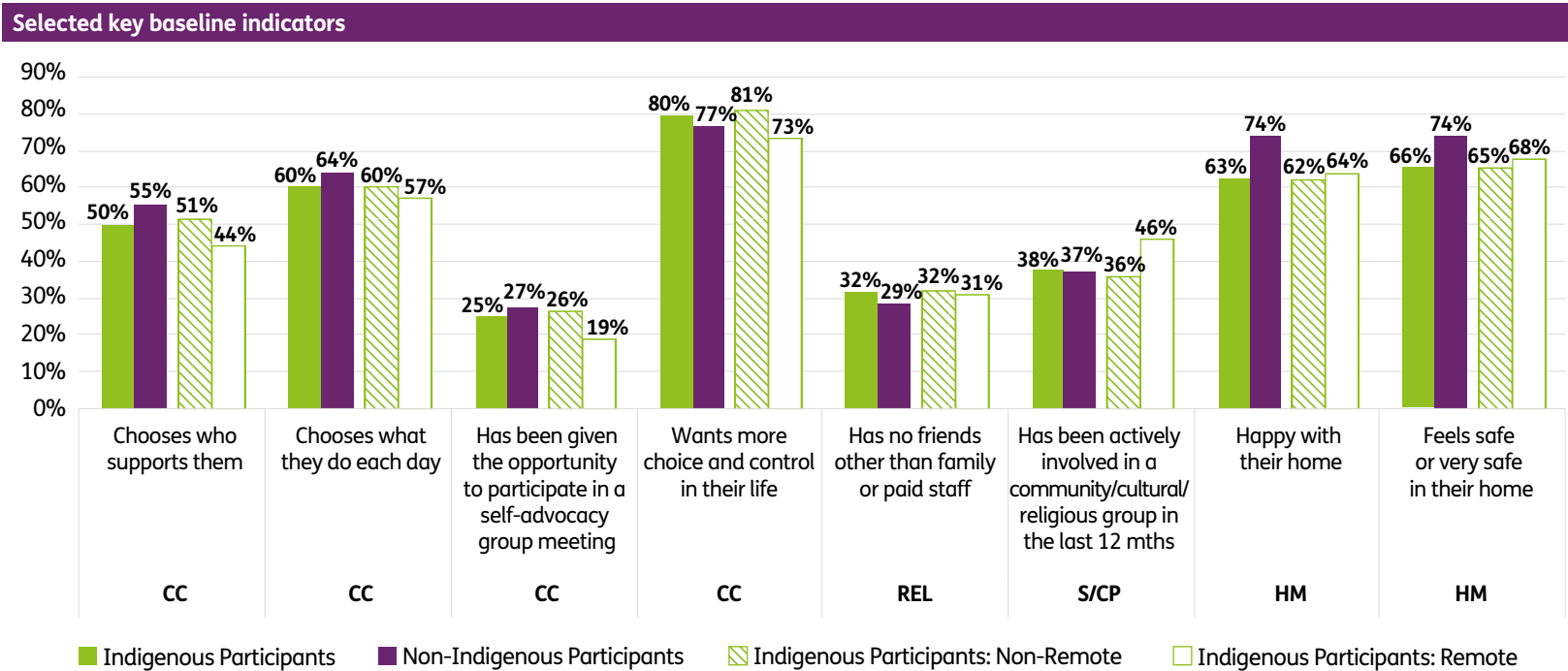


Indigenous participants' perceptions that the NDIS has helped them have improved between year one and year two in all outcome domains with the exception of finding a home and employment.

Indigenous participants were generally less likely to perceive that the NDIS had helped them compared to non-Indigenous participants, although the size of the differential reduced in the second year for all domains except work.

Participants aged 25 and over

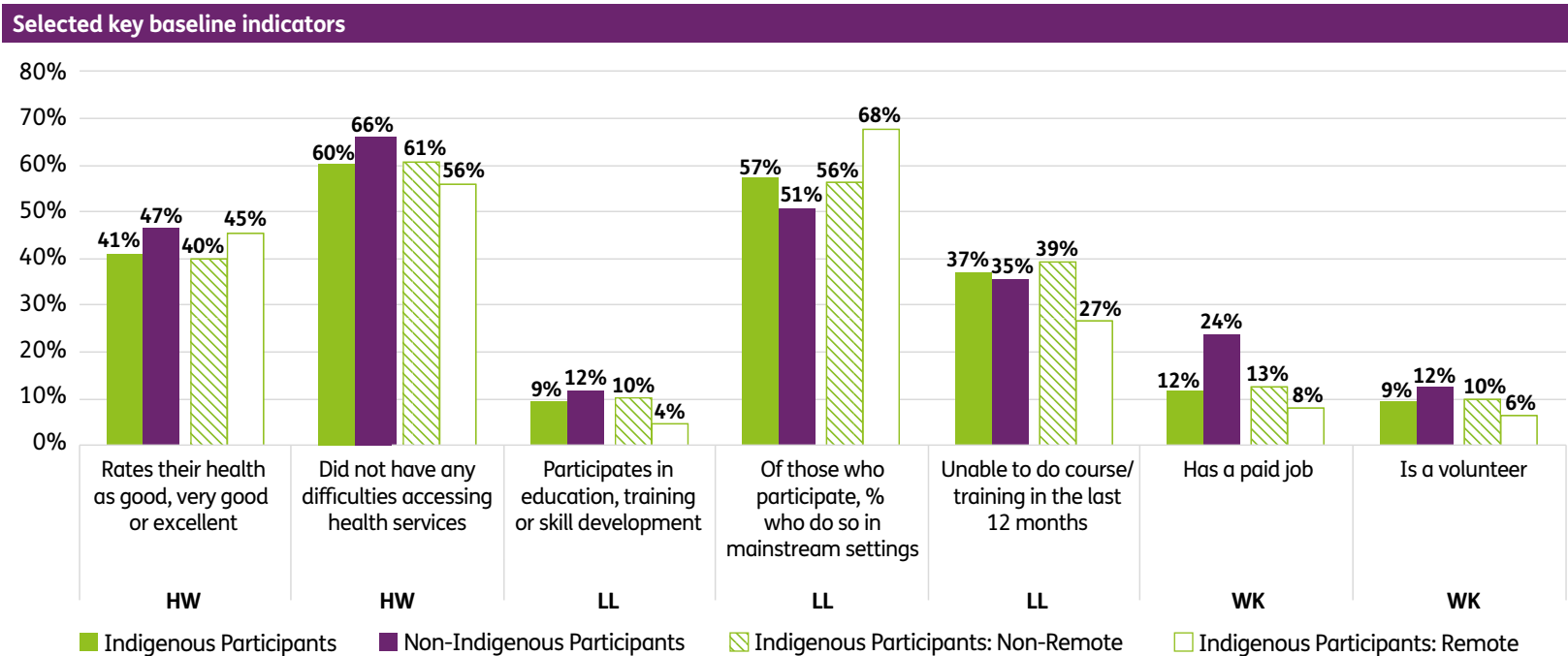
Participants aged 25 and over: Baseline outcomes (1)



Indigenous participants were considerably less likely to be happy with their home or feel safe in their home at baseline compared to non-Indigenous participants. The choice and control and relationship domains also showed poorer outcomes for Indigenous participants.

Indigenous participants in remote communities had the worst reported outcomes of all groups for choosing who supports them, but had the highest positive response rate to the community participation question.

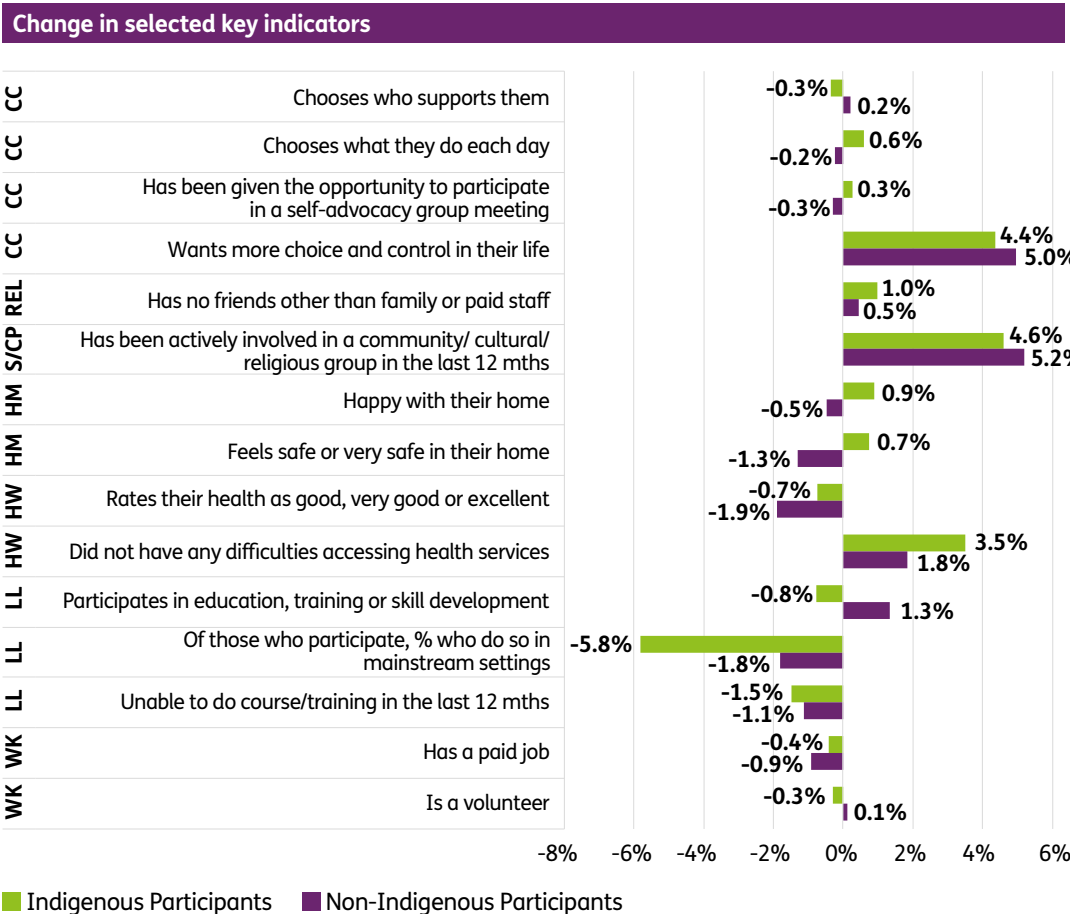
Participants aged 25 and over: Baseline outcomes (2)



Compared to non-Indigenous participants, Indigenous participants had worse reported outcomes for all questions in the health and wellbeing and work domains. Indigenous participants were also less likely to participate in education and training, however those who did were more likely to do so in a mainstream setting.

Indigenous participants in remote communities had the poorest work and learning outcomes, and were less likely to be able to access health services, compared to all other participants.

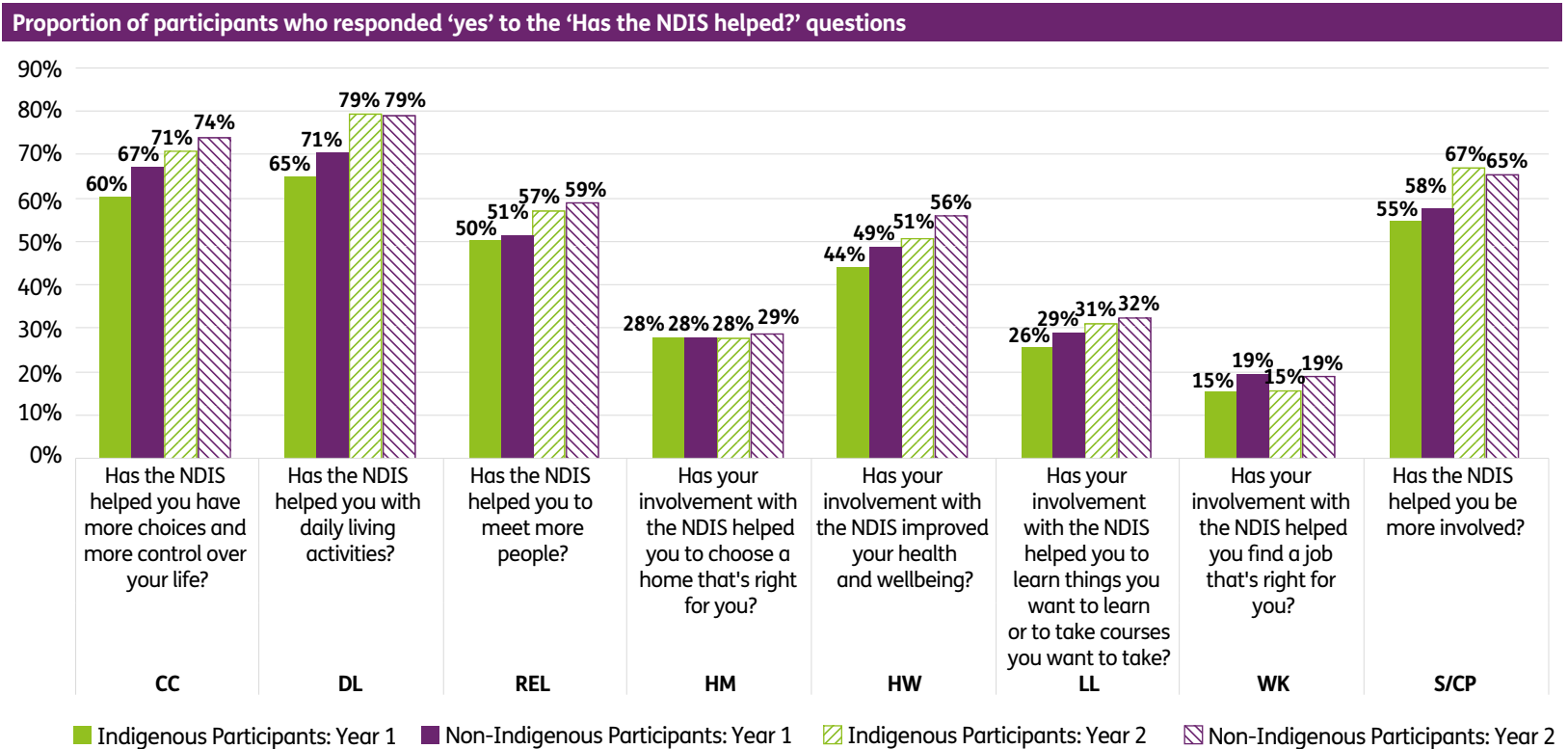
Participants aged 25 and over: Longitudinal outcomes



After one year in the Scheme, Indigenous participants increased their rates of community participation by +5%, which is broadly in line with non-Indigenous participants. Similarly, the percentage of participants who want more choice and control in their life increased by similar rates for both groups.

The improvement in access to health services is highest for Indigenous participants, although non-Indigenous participants started with a higher baseline response.

Participants aged 25 and over: Has the NDIS helped?



Indigenous participants' perceptions that the NDIS has helped them have improved between year one and year two in all outcome domains with the exception of finding a home and employment.

In their first year, Indigenous participants were less likely to perceive that the NDIS had helped them compared to non-Indigenous participants. However, by the second year this gap had closed for the daily living and social and community participation questions.

Participants aged 15 and over

**Employment and community
participation**

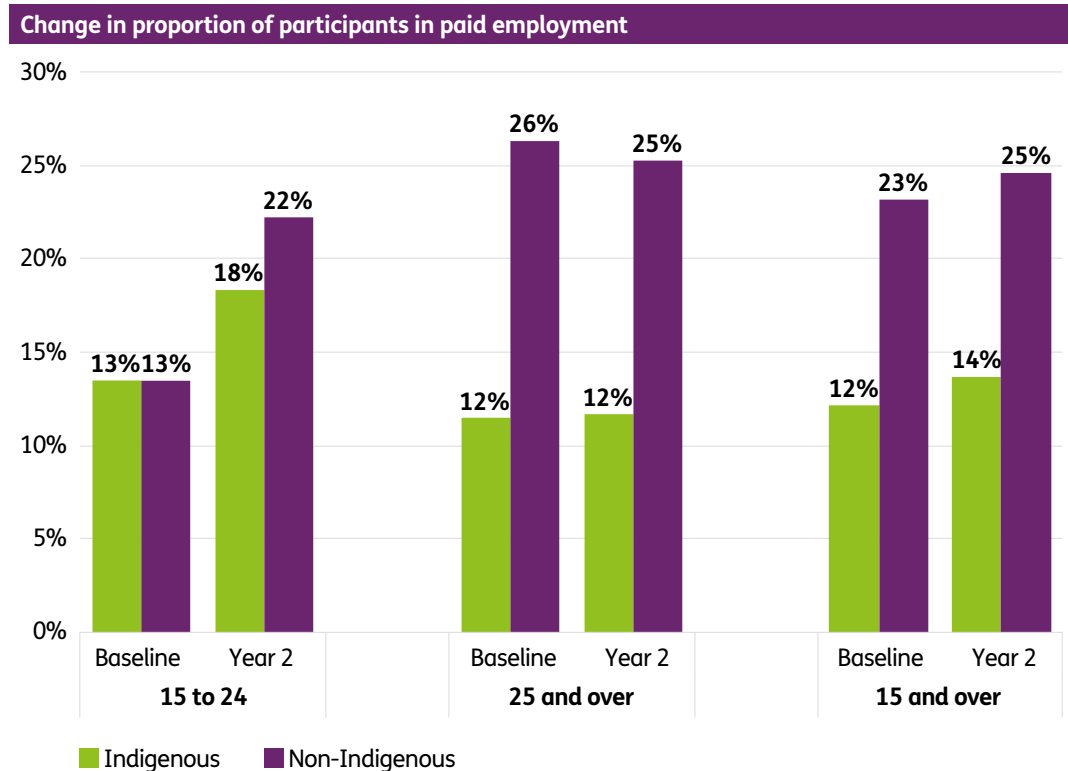
Participants in work

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.

The percentage of Indigenous participants in paid work increased from a baseline of 13% to 18% in year two for those aged 15 to 24. In comparison, non-Indigenous participants aged 15 to 24 had a higher increase in employment rates from 13% at baseline to 22% in year two.

The percentage of participants aged 25 and over who are in paid work remained stable between baseline and year 2, albeit at a considerably higher rate for non-Indigenous participants (25%) compared to Indigenous participants (12%).

Overall, the percentage of participants in paid employment has increased from 12% to 14% for Indigenous participants, and from 23% to 25% for non-Indigenous participants.

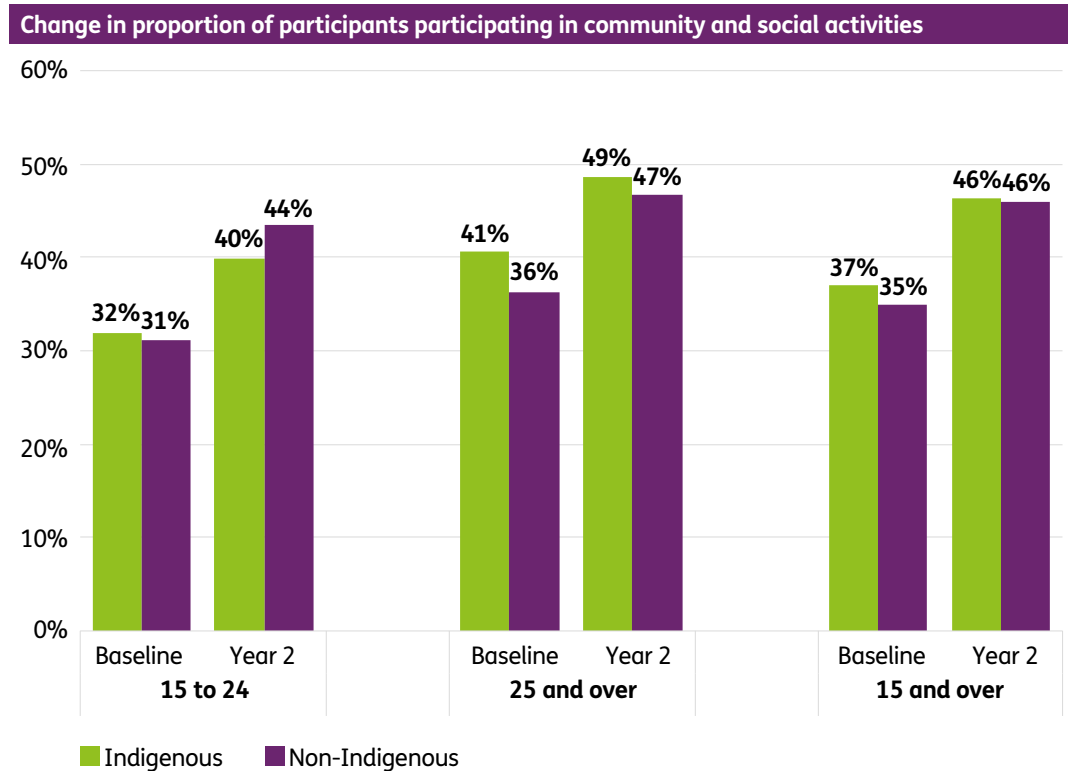


Note: Although participants employment outcomes vary greatly with remoteness, it is not a significant driver of the difference in the proportion of Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants in paid employment.

Participants in community and social activities

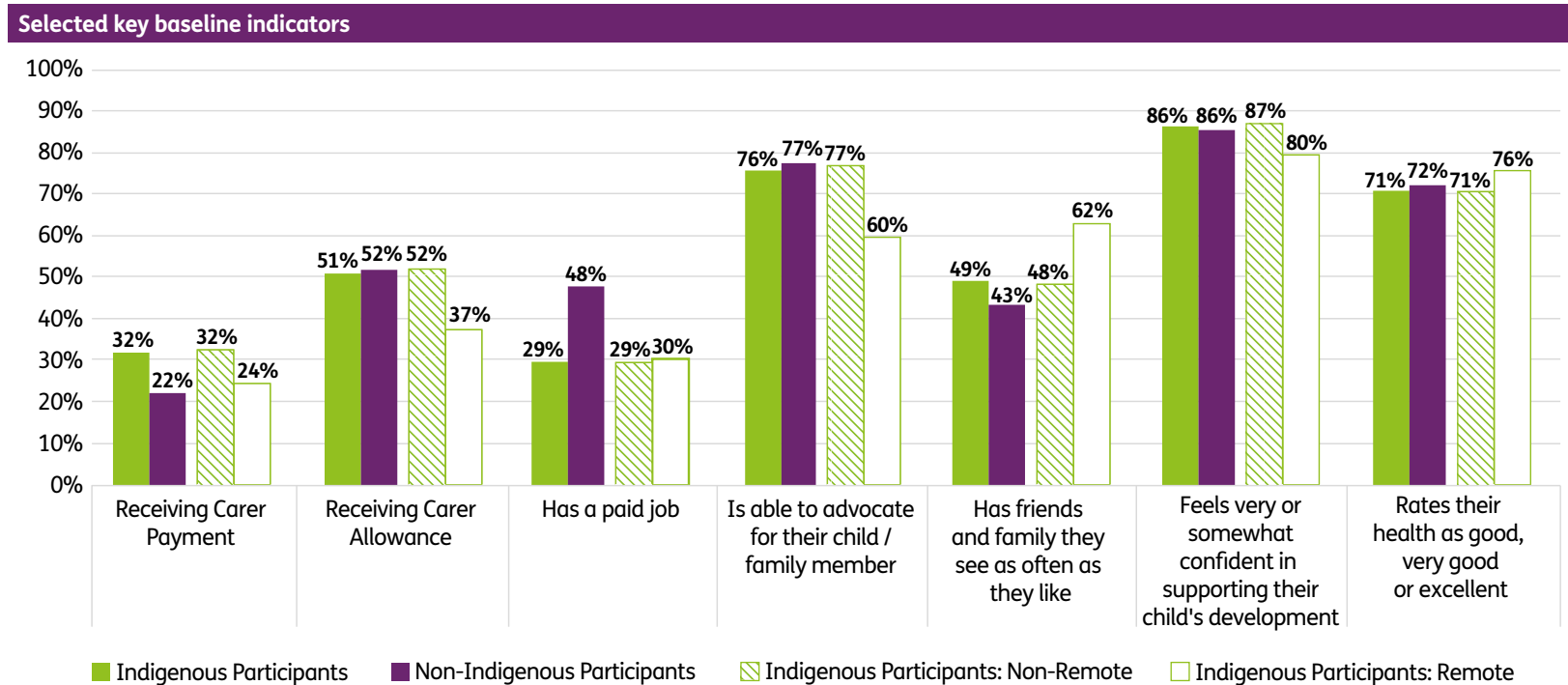
The number of participants engaging in community and social activities is one of the key measures for ensuring quality experiences and outcomes for participants.

For all Indigenous participants aged 15 and over, there was a considerable increase in community and social participation from a baseline of 37% to 46% in year two. The corresponding increase for non-Indigenous participants was slightly higher, from 35% at baseline to 46% in year two. Overall, the percentage of Indigenous participants and non-Indigenous participants who are engaged in community and social activities is the same after two years in the Scheme.



Families and carers of NDIS participants aged 0 to 14

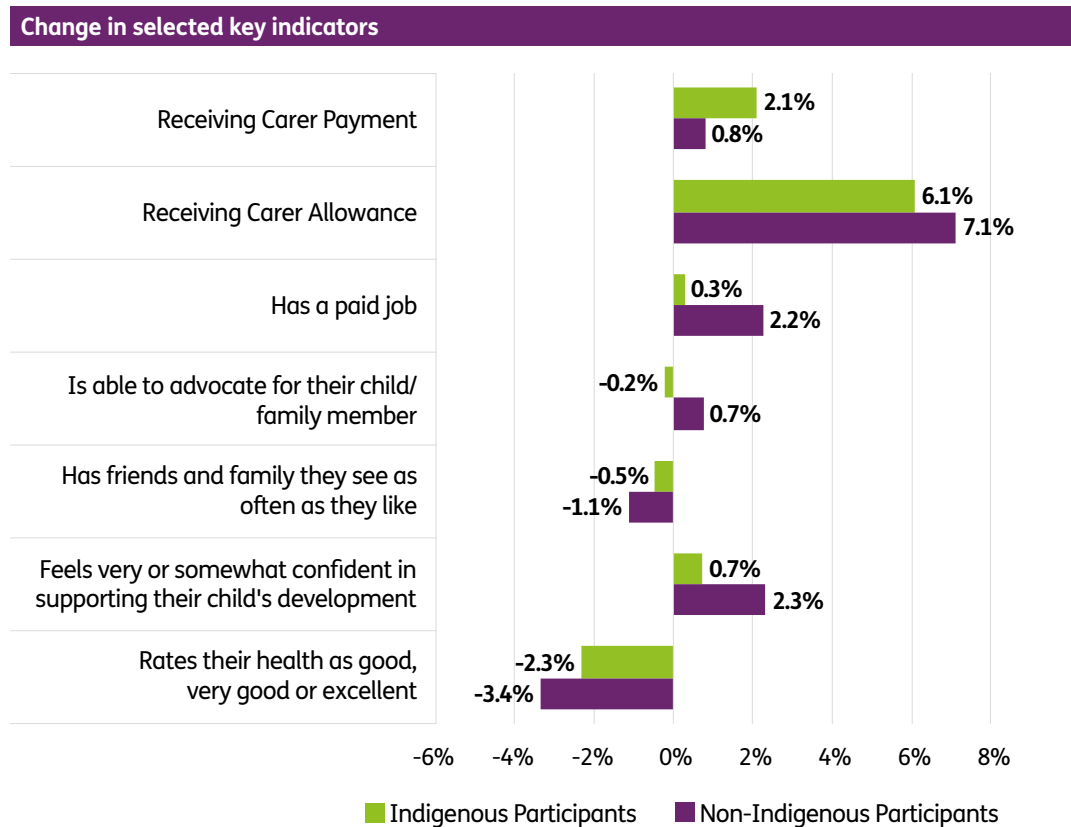
Families and carers of participants aged 0 to 14: Baseline outcomes



The percentage of families/carers in a paid job was considerably lower at baseline for Indigenous participants compared to non-Indigenous participants. The families and carers of Indigenous participants were also more likely to be receiving Carer Payment, although those living in remote communities were considerably less likely to be receiving both Carer Payment and Carer Allowance.

Families/carers of Indigenous participants were more likely to have friends and family they see as often as they like at baseline, and this increased further for those in remote areas.

Families and carers of participants aged 0 to 14: Longitudinal outcomes

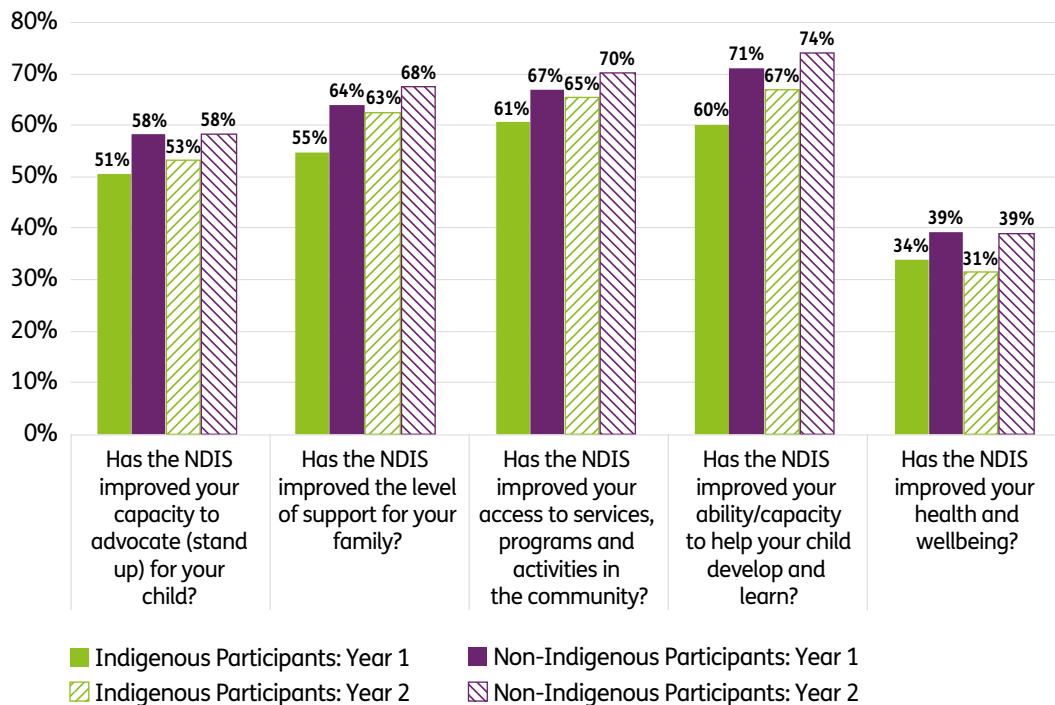


After one year in the Scheme, the percentage of families and carers of Indigenous participants who had a paid job increased 0.3%, compared to a 2.2% increase for the families and carers of non-Indigenous participants. There was also a larger increase in the percentage of families/carers of Indigenous participants receiving a Carer Payment, while both groups had a significant increase in the proportion of families/carers receiving Carer Allowance.

The improvement in the proportion of families and carers of Indigenous participants who felt confident in supporting their child's development was lower compared to the families and carers of non-Indigenous participants. However, the percentage of families and carers who rated their health as good, very good or excellent decreased by a smaller amount for the families/carers of Indigenous participants compared to non-Indigenous participants.

Families and carers of participants aged 0 to 14: Has the NDIS helped?

Proportion of families and carers who responded 'yes' to the 'Has the NDIS helped?' questions

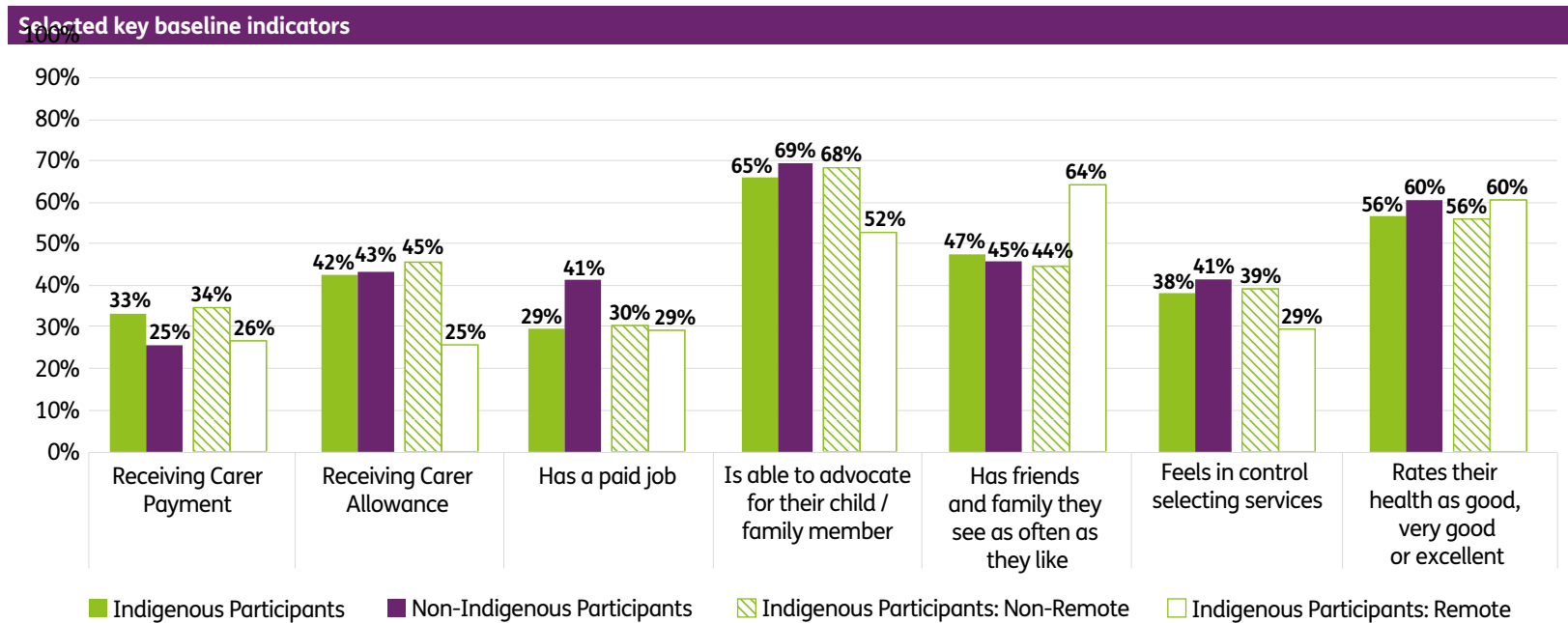


For the families and carers of Indigenous participants, perceptions of the NDIS have improved between year one and year two, with the exception of whether the NDIS has helped with their health and wellbeing.

In their first year, the families and carers of Indigenous participants were considerably less likely to perceive that the NDIS had helped them compared to non-Indigenous participants. However, this differential narrowed in the second year for all questions except for health and wellbeing.

Families and carers of NDIS participants aged 15 and over

Families and carers of participants aged 15 and over: Baseline outcomes

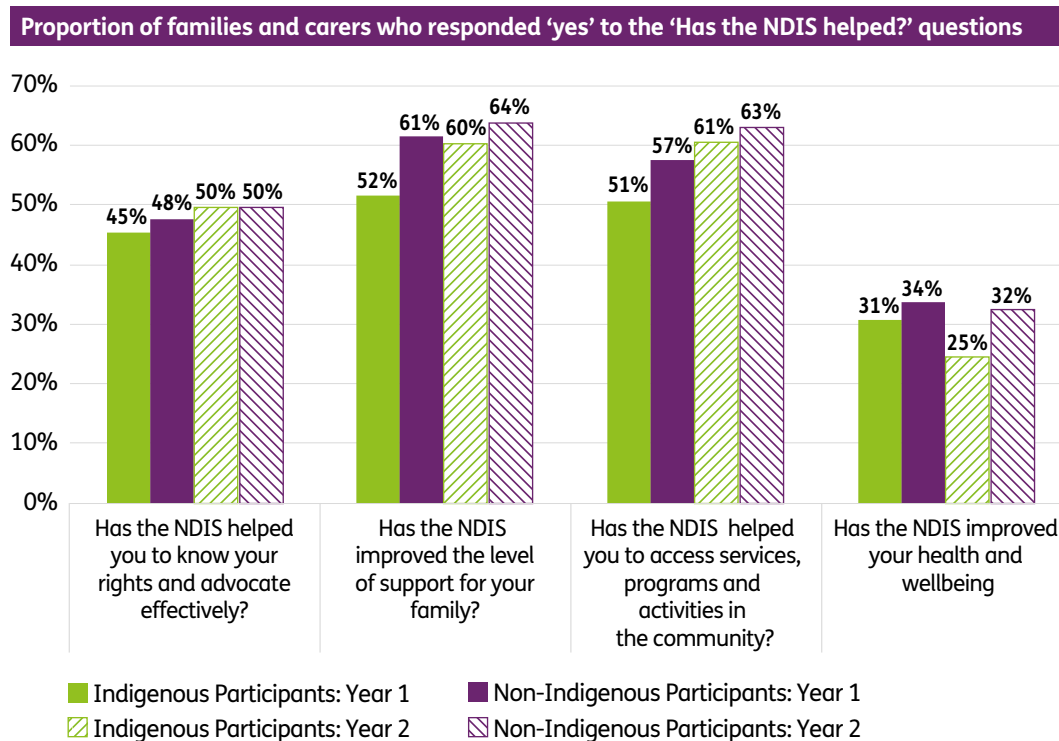


The families/carers of Indigenous participants are less likely to be in a paid job and are more likely to be receiving Carer Payment at baseline compared to non-Indigenous participants. They also have poorer outcomes regarding advocating for the participant, selecting services, and their own health but are more likely to have friends and family they see as often as they like.

For families/carers of Indigenous participants in remote areas, they are considerably less likely to receive Carer benefits and generally have poorer outcomes compared to other groups, except in respect to seeing friends and family and their health.

Note: Longitudinal outcomes are not shown for families and carers of participants aged 15 and over due to insufficient data.

Families and carers of participants aged 15 and over: Has the NDIS helped?



Similarly to the 0 to 14 group, perceptions of the NDIS have improved between year one and year two for the families and carers of Indigenous participants, with the exception of health and wellbeing.

The families/carers of Indigenous participants were less likely to perceive that the NDIS had helped them compared to the families/carers of non-Indigenous participants, with the largest differences being with respect to the level of support for the family and access to services.

Note: Results for Indigenous participants in Year 2 should be interpreted with caution as numbers are small.

Participant satisfaction

Participant satisfaction – new survey method

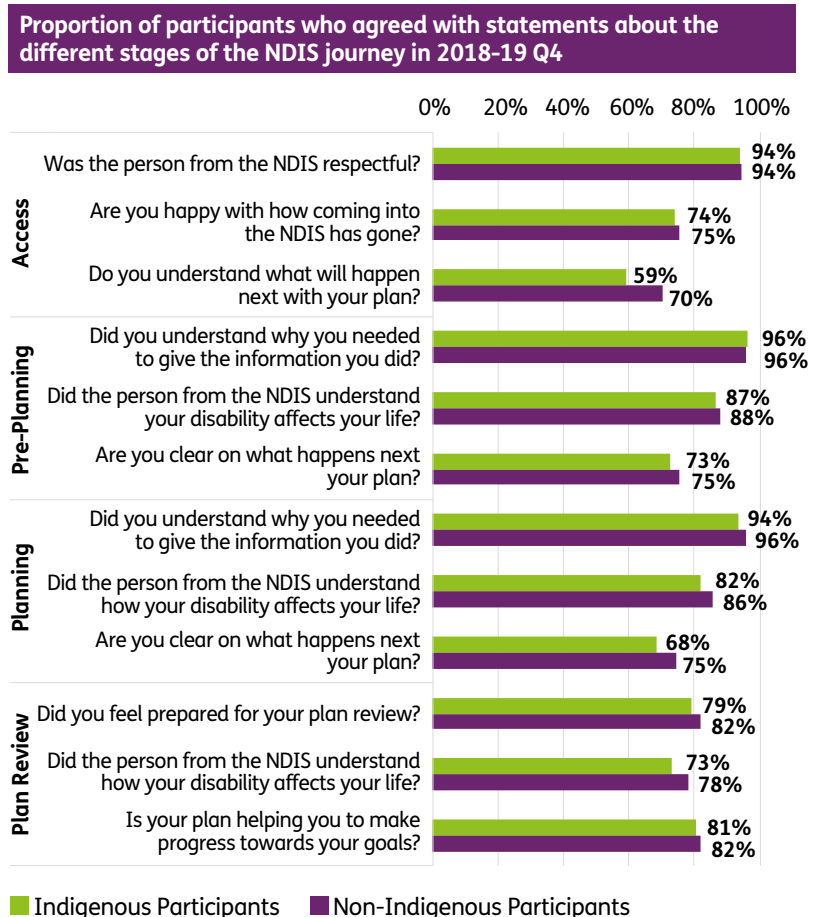


A new participant satisfaction survey has been developed to better record the experience of NDIS participants and their families and carers at different stages of the participant pathway.

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

Generally Indigenous participants have similar satisfaction at all stages of the pathway as non-Indigenous participants. The exceptions are the questions on knowing what happens next, for which Indigenous participants had lower rates of satisfaction.



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