

7. Participants aged 15 to 24: Has the NDIS helped?

7.1 Results across all participants

For participants who have been in the Scheme for approximately one or two years as at 30 June 2019, Figure 7.1 shows the percentage of participants aged 15 to 24 who think that the NDIS has helped with outcomes related to each of the eight domains, after one year in the Scheme and after two years in the Scheme.

Figure 7.1 Percentage who think that the NDIS has helped with outcomes related to each domain

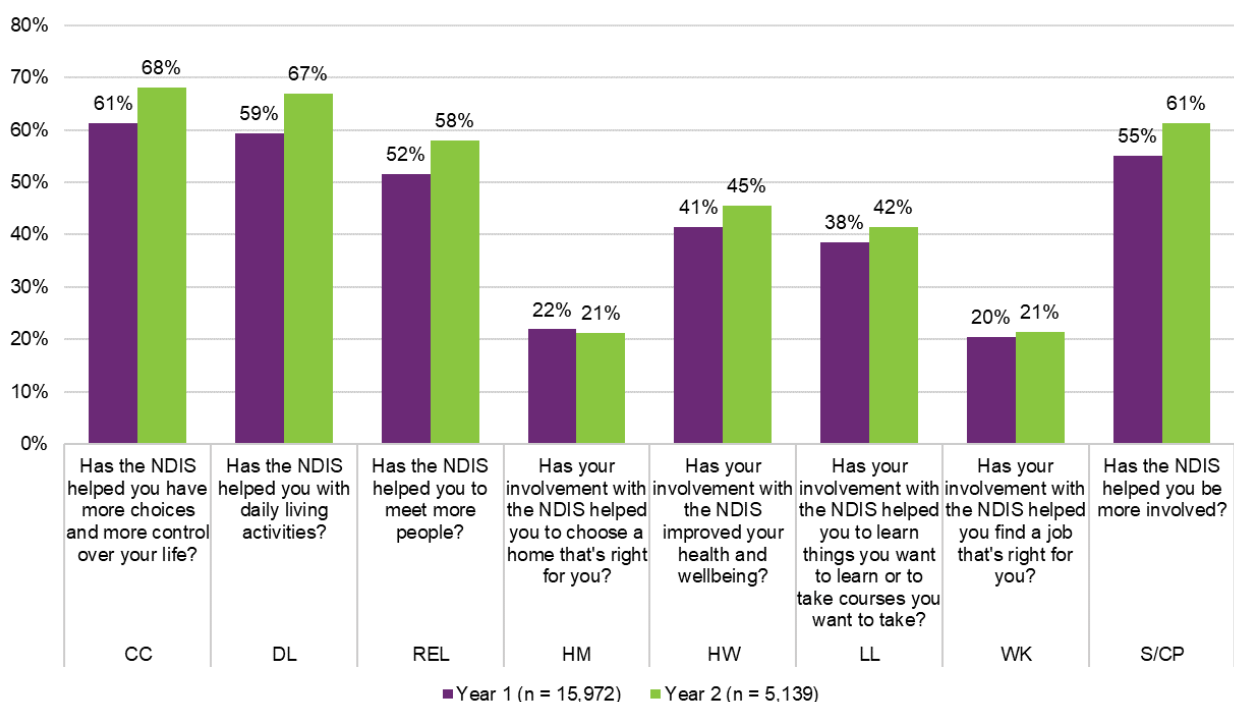


Figure 7.1 shows that opinions on whether the NDIS has helped vary considerably by domain for the young adult cohort.

After one and two years in the Scheme, the percentage responding positively is highest for choice and control (61.2% after one year, increasing to 68.0% after two years), and is also above 50% for daily living (59.3% increasing to 67.0%), relationships (51.7% increasing to 58.0%), and participation (55.2% increasing to 61.4%). These are all domains where the NDIS would be expected to have an impact. At both time points, percentages are lower for health and wellbeing (41.5% after one year and 45.5% after two years) and lifelong learning (38.5% after one year and 41.5% after two years), and still lower for home (21.9% after one year and 21.2% after two years) and work (20.5% after one year and 21.4% after two years).

7.2 Results by participant characteristics

7.2.1 Year 1 'Has the NDIS Helped?' indicators – participant characteristics

Year 1 (first review) indicators have been analysed by participant characteristics using one-way analyses, revealing the following key findings:

- For all eight domains, participants with higher baseline plan utilisation are more likely to respond positively. In particular, those with very low utilisation (below 20%) are much less likely to say that the NDIS has helped, and the positive response rate increases strongly between the 0-20% to 60-80% utilisation categories.
- The annualised cost of the baseline plan also has an impact on the likelihood of a positive response. A generally increasing trend towards responding positively as plan budget increases is observed. Related to this, for some areas the likelihood of a positive response tended to increase as participant's level of function decreased.
- The likelihood of responding positively tended to increase with age for most areas.
- Participants with a sensory disability, and those with a psychosocial disability, tended to be less positive about the NDIS having helped, and participants with intellectual disability tended to be more positive on average.
- Participants in TAS and NT tended to be less positive, and those in QLD and WA tended to be more positive.
- Participants in regional areas with population between 5000 and 50,000 were more likely to think that the NDIS had helped compared to participants in larger regional areas or major cities. However, participants in remote and very remote areas were less likely to think that the NDIS had helped.
- Indigenous participants responded less positively across all domains apart from the home domain. However, results for CALD and non-CALD participants were generally similar. There were also no appreciable differences by gender.

7.2.2 Longitudinal 'Has the NDIS Helped?' indicators – participant characteristics

Analysis of longitudinal indicators by participant characteristics has been examined in two ways:

1. A simple comparison of the percentage reporting that the NDIS had helped after two years in the Scheme with the percentage reporting that the NDIS had helped after one year in the Scheme. The difference (percentage after two years minus percentage after one year) is compared for different subgroups.
2. Multiple regression analyses modelling the probability of improvement / deterioration over the participant's second year in the Scheme.⁴⁶

Some key features of the analyses are summarised below.

⁴⁶ Regression models for improvement include all participants who answered "No" at review 1 and model the probability of answering "Yes" at review 2 (between 1696 and 3439 participants, depending on the domain). Models for deterioration include all participants who answered "Yes" at review 1 and model the probability of answering "No" at review 2 (between 959 and 2768 participants).

Has the NDIS helped you have more choices and more control over your life?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS helped them have more choices and more control over their life increased 6.5% from 62.0% to 68.5% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, 28% responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.1 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.1 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	1,696	2,768	467	27.5%	178	6.4%	6.5%

- Participants with fully self-managed plans were more likely to improve but were also more likely to deteriorate, compared to participants with partly self-managed or plan-managed/agency managed plans.
- Participants living in Queensland were more likely to improve.
- Participants living in an area with a higher average unemployment rate were less likely to improve.

Has the NDIS helped you with daily living activities?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS helped them with daily living activities increased 7.8% from 59.3% to 67.1% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, 30.0% responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.2 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.2 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	1,851	2,698	556	30.0%	202	7.5%	7.8%

- Participants with higher levels of NDIA support were more likely to improve.
- Participants with a larger increase in plan utilisation over the period were more likely to improve.
- Older participants were more likely to improve.
- Participants living in Queensland were more likely to improve.
- Participants with a higher annualised plan budget were more likely to improve and less likely to deteriorate.
- Participants living in an area with a higher average unemployment rate were less likely to improve.
- Participants living in New South Wales were more likely to deteriorate.

Has the NDIS helped you meet more people?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS helped them meet more people increased 4.9% from 53.5% to 58.4% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, 20.5% responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.3 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.3 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	2,084	2,398	428	20.5%	210	8.8%	4.9%

- Participants with a lower level of function were more likely to improve.
- Female participants were more likely to improve and less likely to deteriorate.
- SIL participants were more likely to deteriorate.
- Participants with a higher annualised plan budget were less likely to deteriorate.

Has your involvement with the NDIS helped you to choose a home that's right for you?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS helped them choose a home that's right for them decreased by 3.3% from 23.8% to 20.5% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, there was a 3.9% increase in those who responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.4 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.4 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	3,376	1,054	130	3.9%	276	26.2%	-3.3%

- Participants with higher levels of NDIA support were more likely to improve and less likely to deteriorate.
- Participants with a lower level of function were more likely to improve.
- SIL participants were more likely to improve their response and less likely to deteriorate.

Has your involvement with the NDIS improved your health and wellbeing?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS improved their health and wellbeing increased 3.9% from 42.0% to 45.9% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, 15.4% responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.5 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.5 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	2,583	1,869	397	15.4%	223	11.9%	+3.9%

- Female participants were more likely to improve.
- SIL participants were more likely to improve.
- Participants with self-managed plans were more likely to improve.
- Participants living in NT, TAS, WA or ACT were less likely to improve.
- Participants with a higher plan budget were less likely to deteriorate.
- Participants living in an area with a higher Index of Education and Occupation (IEO) were less likely to deteriorate.

Has your involvement with the NDIS helped you to learn things you want to learn or to take courses you want to take?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS helped them to learn things they want to learn or to take courses they want to take increased by 0.4% from 41.3% to 41.7% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, there was a 10.2% increase in those who responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.6 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.6 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	2,614	1,840	267	10.2%	250	13.6%	0.4%

- Participants with lower level of NDIA support were more likely to improve.
- Female participants were more likely to improve.
- SIL participants were more likely to improve.
- Participants with an acquired brain injury, a visual impairment, a hearing impairment or a spinal cord injury were more likely to deteriorate.
- Participants who did not receive disability supports prior to entering the NDIS (were not a part of an existing State or Commonwealth scheme upon entry to the NDIS) were less likely to deteriorate.

Has your involvement with the NDIS helped you find a job that's right for you?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS helped them find a job that's right for them decreased by 0.2% from 21.8% to 21.6% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, there was a 6.8% increase in those who responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.7 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.7 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	3,439	959	233	6.8%	240	25.0%	-0.2%

- Indigenous participants were less likely to improve.
- Participants with a lower level of function were less likely to improve.
- Participants from Victoria were less likely to improve.

Has the NDIS helped you be more involved?

The percentage of participants reporting that the NDIS helped them be more involved increased 5.9% from 55.6% to 61.5% between the first review and the second review. Of those who responded negatively at the first review, 21.3% responded positively at the second review (improvement). Table 7.8 sets out the breakdown of the movements of responses.

Table 7.8 Breakdown of net movement in longitudinal responses

Longitudinal Period	Number of first review responses		Improvements: No to Yes		Deteriorations: Yes to No		Net Movement
	No	Yes	Number	%	Number	%	
Review 1 to Review 2	1,966	2,462	418	21.3%	156	6.3%	5.9%

- Participants with a lower level of function were more likely to improve.
- Participants from Queensland were more likely to improve.
- SIL participants were more likely to improve.
- Participants living in an area with a higher Index of Education and Occupation (IEO) were less likely to improve.
- Older participants were less likely to deteriorate.
- Participants with a higher plan budget were less likely to deteriorate.
- Participants who did not receive disability supports prior to entering the NDIS (were not a part of an existing State or Commonwealth scheme upon entry to the NDIS) were less likely to deteriorate.