

Outcomes for Families and Carers of NDIS Participants

30 June 2020

Appendix A – Variables used in baseline and longitudinal modelling

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Appendix A. Variables used in baseline and longitudinal modelling

A.1 Variables used in baseline modelling

Families/carers of participants aged 0 to 14

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Categorical			
Respondent	Relationship of the respondent to the participant	Father, mother, other	Mother
Access entry type	Whether the participant received supports from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs before entering the NDIS	Services from Commonwealth programs, services from State/Territory programs, did not previously receive services from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs	Participant received services from State/Territory programs
Access request decision reason	Whether participant entered the Scheme due to disability (Section 24 of the NDIS Act) or for early intervention (Section 25)	Entered the Scheme for early intervention, entered the Scheme due to disability	Entered the Scheme due to disability
Plan management method	How the supports in a participant's plan are managed	Agency-managed, plan managed, self-managed partly and self-managed fully	Agency-managed
Support categories within plans	Percentage of plan budget that are capacity building supports or capital supports	0-75% capacity building, 75-95% capacity building, 95-100% capacity building, 5-100% capital	Between 95% and 100% of supports are capacity building supports
Gender	Participant's gender	Male, Female	Male
Indigenous status	Whether participant identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous, Indigenous, not stated	Non-Indigenous

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
CALD status	Whether participant is from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background	CALD, non-CALD	Non-CALD
Remoteness	Remoteness of participant's place of residence, measured by the Modified Monash Model (MMM)	Major cities, Regional, Remote / Very Remote	Major cities
State/Territory	State or Territory the participant resides in	New South Wales (NSW), Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia (WA), Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory (ACT), Northern Territory (NT)	NSW
Disability type	Participant's primary disability	Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Intellectual disability, Global developmental delay, Developmental delay, Other Neurological, Hearing impairment, Visual impairment, Other sensory / speech, Psychosocial disability, Spinal cord injury / Other physical, Other (includes all disabilities apart from those listed)	Developmental delay
Level of NDIA support	The level of NDIA support a participant requires as they move along the participant pathway, having regard to the complexity of their situation	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Medium
Covid-19 indicator	Whether the review occurred after the start of Covid-19 (23 March 2020)	Yes, No	No
Participant living situation	Where the participant lives	Private owned, rented from a private landlord, rented from a public authority, other	Private-owned
Supported Independent Living indicator	Whether there were supports for supported independent living in the review period	Yes, No	No

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Continuous			
Annualised plan budget	Plan budget expressed as a yearly equivalent, aggregated over the modelling period		
Average unemployment rate	Unemployment rate of the Local Government Area (LGA) in which the participant lives		
General time trend	General time trend not related to COVID-19		
Change in time trend post-COVID	Interaction between COVID-19 indicator and general time trend, allowing for a change in slope post-COVID		
Level of function	A numeric variable measuring participant level of function		
Age	Age at Scheme entry		

Families/carers of participants aged 15 to 24

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Categorical			
Respondent	Relationship of the respondent to the participant	Father, mother, sibling, grandparent, spouse / partner, carer, other	Mother

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Access entry type	Whether the participant received supports from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs before entering the NDIS	Services from Commonwealth programs, services from State/Territory programs, did not previously receive services from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs	Participant received services from State/Territory programs
Access request decision reason	Whether participant entered the Scheme due to disability (Section 24 of the NDIS Act) or for early intervention (Section 25)	Entered the Scheme for early intervention, entered the Scheme due to disability	Entered the Scheme due to disability
Plan management method	How the supports in a participant's plan are managed	Agency-managed, plan managed, self-managed partly and self-managed fully	Agency-managed
Support categories within plans	Percentage of plan budget that are capacity building supports or capital supports	0-75% capacity building, 75-95% capacity building, 95-100% capacity building, 5-100% capital	Less than 75% of supports are capacity building supports
Gender	Participant's gender	Male, Female	Male
Indigenous status	Whether participant identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous, Indigenous, not stated	Non-Indigenous
CALD status	Whether participant is from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background	CALD, non-CALD	Non-CALD
Remoteness	Remoteness of participant's place of residence, measured by the Modified Monash Model (MMM)	Major cities, Regional, Remote / Very Remote	Major cities

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
State/Territory	State or Territory the participant resides in	New South Wales (NSW), Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia (WA), Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory (ACT), Northern Territory (NT)	NSW
Disability type	Participant's primary disability	Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Intellectual disability, Other Neurological, Hearing impairment, Visual impairment, Other sensory / speech, Psychosocial disability, Spinal cord injury / Other physical, Other (includes all disabilities apart from those listed)	Autism
Level of NDIA support	The level of NDIA support a participant requires as they move along the participant pathway, having regard to the complexity of their situation	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Medium
Covid-19 indicator	Whether the review occurred after the start of Covid-19 (23 March 2020)	Yes, No	No
Participant living situation	Where the participant lives	Private owned, rented from a private landlord, rented from a public authority, supported accommodation, other	Private-owned
Supported Independent Living indicator	Whether there were supports for supported independent living in the review period	Yes, No	No
Continuous			
Annualised plan budget	Plan budget expressed as a yearly equivalent, aggregated over the modelling period		

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Average unemployment rate	Unemployment rate of the Local Government Area (LGA) in which the participant lives		
General time trend	General time trend not related to COVID-19		
Change in time trend post-COVID	Interaction between COVID-19 indicator and general time trend, allowing for a change in slope post-COVID		
Level of function	A numeric variable measuring participant level of function		
Age	Age at Scheme entry		

Families/carers of participants aged 25 and over

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Categorical			
Respondent	Relationship of the respondent to the participant	Father, mother, sibling, grandparent, spouse / partner, carer, other	Mother
Access entry type	Whether the participant received supports from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs before entering the NDIS	Services from Commonwealth programs, services from State/Territory programs, did not previously receive services from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs	Participant received services from State/Territory programs

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Access request decision reason	Whether participant entered the Scheme due to disability (Section 24 of the NDIS Act) or for early intervention (Section 25)	Entered the Scheme for early intervention, entered the Scheme due to disability	Entered the Scheme due to disability
Plan management method	How the supports in a participant's plan are managed	Agency-managed, plan managed, self-managed partly and self-managed fully	Agency-managed
Support categories within plans	Percentage of plan budget that are capacity building supports or capital supports	0-15% capacity building, 15-30% capacity building, 30-60% capacity building, 60-100% capacity building, 5-100% capital	Less than 15% of supports are capacity building supports
Gender	Participant's gender	Male, Female	Male
Indigenous status	Whether participant identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous, Indigenous, not stated	Non-Indigenous
CALD status	Whether participant is from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background	CALD, non-CALD	Non-CALD
Remoteness	Remoteness of participant's place of residence, measured by the Modified Monash Model (MMM)	Major cities, Regional, Remote / Very Remote	Major cities
State/Territory	State or Territory the participant resides in	New South Wales (NSW), Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia (WA), Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory (ACT), Northern Territory (NT)	NSW

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Disability type	Participant's primary disability	ABI, Stroke, Multiple sclerosis, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Intellectual disability, Other Neurological, Hearing impairment, Visual impairment, Psychosocial disability, Spinal cord injury, Other physical, Other (includes all disabilities apart from those listed)	Intellectual disability
Level of NDIA support	The level of NDIA support a participant requires as they move along the participant pathway, having regard to the complexity of their situation	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Medium
Covid-19 indicator	Whether the review occurred after the start of Covid-19 (23 March 2020)	Yes, No	No
Participant living situation	Where the participant lives	Private owned, rented from a private landlord, rented from a public authority, supported accommodation, other	Private-owned
Supported Independent Living indicator	Whether there were supports for supported independent living in the review period	Yes, No	No
Continuous			
Annualised plan budget	Plan budget expressed as a yearly equivalent, aggregated over the modelling period		
Average unemployment rate	Unemployment rate of the Local Government Area (LGA) in which the participant lives		
General time trend	General time trend not related to COVID-19		

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Change in time trend post-COVID	Interaction between COVID-19 indicator and general time trend, allowing for a change in slope post-COVID		
Level of function	A numeric variable measuring participant level of function		
Age	Age at Scheme entry		

A.2 Variables used in longitudinal modelling

Families/carers of participants aged 0 to 14

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Categorical			
Respondent	Relationship of the respondent to the participant	Father, mother	Mother
Access entry type	Whether the participant received supports from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs before entering the NDIS	Services from Commonwealth programs, services from State/Territory programs, did not previously receive services from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs	Participant received services from State/Territory programs
Access request decision reason	Whether participant entered the Scheme due to disability (Section 24 of the NDIS Act) or for early intervention (Section 25)	Entered the Scheme for early intervention, entered the Scheme due to disability	Entered the Scheme due to disability
Plan management method	How the supports in a participant's plan are managed	Agency-managed, plan managed, self-managed partly and self-managed fully	Agency-managed

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Support categories within plans	Percentage of plan budget that are capacity building supports or capital supports	0-75% capacity building, 75-95% capacity building, 95-100% capacity building, 5-100% capital	Between 95% and 100% of supports are capacity building supports
Gender	Participant's gender	Male, Female	Male
Indigenous status	Whether participant identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous, Indigenous, not stated	Non-Indigenous
CALD status	Whether participant is from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background	CALD, non-CALD	Non-CALD
Remoteness	Remoteness of participant's place of residence, measured by the Modified Monash Model (MMM)	Major cities, Other (includes all regional and remote/very remote areas)	Major cities
State/Territory	State or Territory the participant resides in	New South Wales (NSW), Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Other (WA, Tasmania, ACT, NT combined)	NSW
Disability type	Participant's primary disability	Autism, Cerebral Palsy / Other Neurological, Down Syndrome / Intellectual disability, Global developmental delay / Development, Sensory disability, Other (includes all disabilities apart from those listed)	Autism
Entry year	Financial year of entry to the Scheme	2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19	2016/17
Relocated	Whether the participant changed Local Government Area (LGA) since the last review	Yes, No	No

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Level of NDIA support	The level of NDIA support a participant requires as they move along the participant pathway, having regard to the complexity of their situation	High, Medium, Low	Medium
Covid-19 indicator	Whether the review occurred after the start of Covid-19 (23 March 2020)	Yes, No	No
Participant living situation	Where the participant lives	Private owned, rented from a private landlord, rented from a public authority, other	Private-owned
Family/carer work status change	A variable which indicates how the family/carers' work status has changed between review periods	Never in paid work, remained in paid work, started paid work, stopped paid work	Never in paid work
Continuous			
Annualised plan budget	Plan budget expressed as a yearly equivalent, aggregated over the modelling period		
Utilisation of plan budget	Percentage of plan budget that has been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of core supports	Percentage of core supports that have been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of capital supports	Percentage of capital supports that have been used over the modelling period		

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Utilisation of capacity building supports	Percentage of capacity building supports that have been used over the modelling period		
Average unemployment rate	Unemployment rate of the Local Government Area (LGA) in which the participant lives		
General time trend	General time trend not related to COVID-19		
Change in time trend post-COVID	Interaction between COVID-19 indicator and general time trend, allowing for a change in slope post-COVID		
Level of function	A numeric variable measuring participant level of function		
Age	Age at Scheme entry		

Families/carers of participants aged 15 to 24

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Categorical			
Respondent	Relationship of the respondent to the participant	Father, mother, grandparent, sibling, spouse/partner	Mother
Access entry type	Whether the participant received supports from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs before entering the NDIS	Services from Commonwealth programs, services from State/Territory programs, did not previously receive services from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs	Participant received services from State/Territory programs

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Access request decision reason	Whether participant entered the Scheme due to disability (Section 24 of the NDIS Act) or for early intervention (Section 25)	Entered the Scheme for early intervention, entered the Scheme due to disability	Entered the Scheme due to disability
Plan management method	How the supports in a participant's plan are managed	Agency-managed, plan managed, self-managed partly and self-managed fully	Agency-managed
Support categories within plans	Percentage of plan budget that are capacity building supports or capital supports	0-75% capacity building, 75-95% capacity building, 95-100% capacity building, 5-100% capital	Less than 75% of supports are capacity building supports
Gender	Participant's gender	Male, Female	Male
Indigenous status	Whether participant identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous, Indigenous, not stated	Non-Indigenous
CALD status	Whether participant is from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background	CALD, non-CALD	Non-CALD
Remoteness	Remoteness of participant's place of residence, measured by the Modified Monash Model (MMM)	Major cities, Other (includes all regional and remote/very remote areas)	Major cities
State/Territory	State or Territory the participant resides in	New South Wales (NSW), Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Other (WA, Tasmania, ACT, NT combined)	NSW
Disability type	Participant's primary disability	Autism, Cerebral Palsy / Other Neurological, Down Syndrome / Intellectual disability, Psychosocial disability, Sensory disability, Other	Autism

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Entry year	Financial year of entry to the Scheme	2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19	2016/17
Relocated	Whether the participant changed Local Government Area (LGA) since the last review	Yes, No	No
Level of NDIA support	The level of NDIA support a participant requires as they move along the participant pathway, having regard to the complexity of their situation	High, Medium, Low	Medium
Covid-19 indicator	Whether the review occurred after the start of Covid-19 (23 March 2020)	Yes, No	No
Participant living situation	Where the participant lives	Private owned, rented from a private landlord, rented from a public authority, other	Private-owned
Family/carer work status change	A variable which indicates how the family/carers' work status has changed between review periods	Never in paid work, remained in paid work, started paid work, stopped paid work	Never in paid work
Participant health status change	A variable which indicates how the participants' health status has changed between review periods	No change, deterioration, improvement	No change
Participant feels safe at home	How safe the participant feels at home	Neither safe nor unsafe, safe or very safe, unsafe or very unsafe	Safe or very safe

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Continuous			
Annualised plan budget	Plan budget expressed as a yearly equivalent, aggregated over the modelling period		
Utilisation of plan budget	Percentage of plan budget that has been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of core supports	Percentage of core supports that have been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of capital supports	Percentage of capital supports that have been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of capacity building supports	Percentage of capacity building supports that have been used over the modelling period		
School Leaver Employment Supports	Amount of supports classified as School Leaver Employment Supports		
Self-managed employment supports	Amount of supports classified as self-managed employment supports		
Other employment supports	Amount of supports not classified as either of the above support types		

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Australian Disability Enterprise payments	Amount of payments classified as Australian Disability Enterprise payments		
Average unemployment rate	Unemployment rate of the Local Government Area (LGA) in which the participant lives		
General time trend	General time trend not related to COVID-19		
Change in time trend post-COVID	Interaction between COVID-19 indicator and general time trend, allowing for a change in slope post-COVID		
Level of function	A numeric variable measuring participant level of function		
Age	Age at Scheme entry		

Families/carers of participants aged 25 and over

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Categorical			
Respondent	Relationship of the respondent to the participant	Father, mother, grandparent, sibling, spouse/partner	Mother

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Access entry type	Whether the participant received supports from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs before entering the NDIS	Services from Commonwealth programs, services from State/Territory programs, did not previously receive services from Commonwealth or State/Territory programs	Participant received services from State/Territory programs
Access request decision reason	Whether participant entered the Scheme due to disability (Section 24 of the NDIS Act) or for early intervention (Section 25)	Entered the Scheme for early intervention, entered the Scheme due to disability	Entered the Scheme due to disability
Plan management method	How the supports in a participant's plan are managed	Agency-managed, plan managed, self-managed partly and self-managed fully	Agency-managed
Support categories within plans	Percentage of plan budget that are capacity building supports or capital supports	0-15% capacity building, 15-30% capacity building, 30-60% capacity building, 60-100% capacity building, 5-100% capital	Less than 15% of supports are capacity building supports
Gender	Participant's gender	Male, Female	Male
Indigenous status	Whether participant identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous, Indigenous, not stated	Non-Indigenous
CALD status	Whether participant is from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background	CALD, non-CALD	Non-CALD
Remoteness	Remoteness of participant's place of residence, measured by the Modified Monash Model (MMM)	Major cities, Other (includes all regional and remote/very remote areas)	Major cities

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
State/Territory	State or Territory the participant resides in	New South Wales (NSW), Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Other (WA, Tasmania, ACT, NT combined)	Victoria
Disability type	Participant's primary disability	Autism, Cerebral Palsy / Other Neurological, Down Syndrome / Intellectual disability, Psychosocial disability, Sensory disability, Other	Down Syndrome / Intellectual disability
Entry year	Financial year of entry to the Scheme	2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19	2016/17
Relocated	Whether the participant changed Local Government Area (LGA) since the last review	Yes, No	No
Level of NDIA support	The level of NDIA support a participant requires as they move along the participant pathway, having regard to the complexity of their situation	High, Medium, Low	Medium
Covid-19 indicator	Whether the review occurred after the start of Covid-19 (23 March 2020)	Yes, No	No
Participant living situation	Where the participant lives	Private owned, rented from a private landlord, rented from a public authority, aged care, supported accommodation, other	Private-owned
Family/carer work status change	A variable which indicates how the family/carers' work status has changed between review periods	Never in paid work, remained in paid work, started paid work, stopped paid work	Never in paid work
Participant health status change	A variable which indicates how the participants' health status has changed between review periods	No change, deterioration, improvement	No change

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Participant feels safe at home	How safe the participant feels at home	Neither safe nor unsafe, safe or very safe, unsafe or very unsafe	Safe or very safe
Continuous			
Annualised plan budget	Plan budget expressed as a yearly equivalent, aggregated over the modelling period		
Utilisation of plan budget	Percentage of plan budget that has been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of core supports	Percentage of core supports that have been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of capital supports	Percentage of capital supports that have been used over the modelling period		
Utilisation of capacity building supports	Percentage of capacity building supports that have been used over the modelling period		
School Leaver Employment Supports	Amount of supports classified as School Leaver Employment Supports		
Self-managed employment supports	Amount of supports classified as self-managed employment supports		

Variable	Meaning	Levels	Reference Category
Other employment supports	Amount of supports not classified as either of the above support types		
Australian Disability Enterprise payments	Amount of payments classified as Australian Disability Enterprise payments		
Average unemployment rate	Unemployment rate of the Local Government Area (LGA) in which the participant lives		
General time trend	General time trend not related to COVID-19		
Change in time trend post-COVID	Interaction between COVID-19 indicator and general time trend, allowing for a change in slope post-COVID		
Level of function	A numeric variable measuring participant level of function		
Age	Age at Scheme entry		