



Participant outcomes

To 30 June 2022

National Disability Insurance Agency

ndis

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Notable changes in indicators over one, two, three, four and five years in the Scheme

Age group variation

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Has the NDIS helped?

Perceptions of whether the NDIS has helped

Appendix

Summary of findings

How have outcomes changed?

This report summarises the number, extent and nature of changes across key outcome indicators. In total, 181 indicators were considered for the older participant age groups (15 and over), and 78 for the younger participant age groups (0 to 14). Of these:

- Overall, 29% of indicators showed significant and material change.
- Thirty-nine percent of short-form (SF) indicators showed significant and material change, compared to 21% of long-form (LF). The lower percentage for LF is due to smaller numbers of participants surveyed.
- Amongst indicators with significant and material change, the percentage showing an improvement was 57% for the 0 to 14 age group, and 62% for the 15 and over age group.

In what areas has the NDIS impacted positively?

- Over 90% of parents and carers of participants from birth to starting school said that the NDIS had helped with their child's development and access to specialist services. Perceptions were increasingly positive the longer participants had been in the Scheme for this age group.
- Over 70% of parents and carers of participants from school to age 14 said that the NDIS helped improve their child's independence, at latest review. Positive perceptions increased with time in Scheme, except for the latest year.
- Participants aged 15 and over have seen major improvement in the proportion saying the NDIS helped with choice and control, daily living, relationships, health and wellbeing, as well as social, community and civic participation.
- In most cases, higher plan utilisation is strongly associated with a positive response after one year in the Scheme. Improvements are typically largest between utilisation bands 0–20% and 20–40% (for most domains).

Summary of findings

Participants aged 0 to 14

Outcomes that are improving for children



Improvements were observed in the areas of daily living, independence, relationships, social and community participation, and lifelong learning:

Specialist services (participants from birth to starting school)

- An increasing percentage of parents/ carers of young children said that their child used specialist services, and that these services helped their child to gain everyday life skills and helped them to assist their child.
- 96% use specialist services (29.6 percentage point (pp) increase)
 - 99% say services helped

Daily living

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Birth to starting school | The percentage of parents/ carers reporting positive outcomes in relation to their young child being able to do everyday tasks (most of the time) has increased from baseline to R3 for children in the Scheme three years. | • 67% able to do everyday tasks (14.3 pp increase over three years) |
| School to 14 | School aged children are becoming more independent. | • 10.9 pp increase to 53% |

Relationships (participants from birth to 14)

- There is an increasing trend in the percentage of children who make friends with people outside the family for those in the Scheme up to three years.
- Participants are increasingly likely to fit into family life, particularly those who have recently started school.
- 68% for participants aged 0 to before starting school (17 pp increase over three and four years)
 - 88% overall (13.9 pp increase)
 - 89% for those who recently started school (27.4 pp increase)

Social, community and civic participation (participants from birth to starting school)

- Children in the younger age group who participate in community activities tend to feel welcomed or actively included at these activities.
- 84% feel welcomed/ included (9.9 pp increase over four years)

Lifelong learning (participants aged from starting school to 14)

- Parents/ carers understanding of children's goals at school shows an increasing trend with time in Scheme.
- 100% know child's goals at school (18.4 pp increase over four years)

* Unless otherwise stated, changes are over five years. Where numbers are too small to show five year results, changes are for three or four years, as stated

Areas of concern/deterioration

Survey results highlight concerns about children's development, social, community and civic participation and school attendance:

Daily living (participants from birth to starting school)

There is an increasing trend in the percentage of parents/ carers of children in the birth to starting school age group reporting concerns in six or more areas of daily living – particularly in relation to social interaction, cognitive development, fine motor skills, self-care, and sensory processing. The fact that this coincides with an increasing use of specialist services may reflect an increasing awareness of areas of concern and a need to seek assistance.

- 85% report six or more areas of concern (18.5 pp increase)

Social, community and civic participation (participants aged from starting school to 14)

There have been decreases in the percentages of school-age children who spend time after school or on weekends with friends and/or in mainstream programs. Further, parents and carers increasingly want their child to be more involved and see their child's disability as a barrier to participation.

- 31% participate in activities (3 pp decrease)
- 72% feel welcomed/ actively included (6.8 pp decrease)

Lifelong learning (participants aged from starting school to 14)

The percentage of children in a mainstream class at school decreased over time, and children who have been in the Scheme for longer as well as older participants are in general less likely to have attended school in a mainstream class.

- Mainstream school attendance – 7.2 pp decrease to 37%
- Cohort effect – higher levels observed for shorter duration cohorts.

* Unless otherwise stated, changes are over five years. Where numbers are too small to show five year results, changes are for three or four years, as stated

Summary of findings

Participants aged 15 and over



Outcomes that are improving

Survey results are showing that there are significant positive changes for participants aged 15 and over since entering the Scheme (i.e. baseline) in the areas of lifelong learning, choice and control, relationships, home, social/community participation and health and wellbeing. For example:

Lifelong learning

Participants are increasingly getting opportunities to learn new things, and completing year 12. In addition, participants are less likely to say there was a course or training they wanted to do in the last 12 months but could not.

- 55% get opportunities to learn (4.4 pp increase)
- 52.1% completed year 12 (5.7 pp increase)
- 29% couldn't do a course/ training that they wanted (4.8 pp decrease)

Choice and control

An increasing percentage of participants made more decisions than they did two years ago, felt able to have a say with their support services, and chose how to spend their free time.

- 9.1 pp increase over five years to 69.2% in making more decision than two years ago
- 47% felt able to have a say (3 pp increase)
- 78% chose how they spend their free time (19.7 pp increase)

Relationships

Participants report getting more opportunities to see friends and being more satisfied with their relationship with staff. However, they expressed increasing desire to see friends and family more often.

- 59% see friends without paid staff/ family present (17.9 pp increase over four years)
- 97% felt happy with their relationship with staff (26.1 pp increase)

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Summary of findings

Participants aged 15 and over



Outcomes that are improving

Home

A growing percentage of participants chose where they lived, who they lived with, and participated in making home-related decisions (i.e. making decisions in planning for a home).

- 10.3 pp increase over four years in decisions on planning for a home
- 74% chose where they lived (10.5 pp increase)
- 86% chose whom they lived with (14.5 pp increase)

Social, community and civic participation

Higher proportions of participants spent their free time doing activities that interest them, were involved in community groups and leisure activities in the last 12 months, got to know people in the community, and had opportunities to try new things and have new experiences. They also felt safer walking alone in their local area after dark, and had a greater say in the community.

- 80% participate in activities of interest (8.4 pp increase)
- 14.3 pp increase to 49% of participants involved in a community activity, while 97% (27.6 pp increase) participated in a leisure activity
- 65% know people in their community (6.3 pp increase)
- 78% had opportunities to try new things (25 pp increase)
- 15.8 pp increase in feeling safe in the local area

Health and wellbeing

There have been improvements in some health and wellbeing indicators. Participants are more likely to have a doctor they see regularly, less likely to have difficulty accessing health services, less likely to have attended hospital in the last 12 months, and more likely to be vaccinated against the flu. In addition, life satisfaction improved over time.

- 94% have a regular doctor (8.8 pp increase)
- 75% have no difficulty accessing health services (5.4 pp increase)
- 28% report having been to hospital in the past 12 months (8.6 pp decrease)
- 71% received a flu vaccination (15.8 pp increase)
- Life satisfaction increased by 18.4 pp to 62%

* Unless otherwise stated, changes are over five years. Where numbers are too small to show five year results, changes are for three or four years, as stated

Summary of findings

Participants aged 15 and over



Areas of concern/deterioration

There are a few areas where there has been a deteriorating trend over time for the older age cohorts – particularly in relation to advocacy, employment and self-rated health:

Choice and control

Participants have become less likely to feel able to advocate for themselves over time in the Scheme. Younger adults are less likely than older adults to feel able to advocate for themselves. Participants continue to express an increasing desire for more choice and control.

- 40% feel able to advocate (4.8 pp decrease)

Employment

Overall, for participants aged 15 and over there has been little change in the percentage in a paid job over time in the Scheme. However, the results vary considerably by age group, with younger participants showing strong increases in this employment outcome.

- Employment is steady, with 25% in a paid job (overall)
- A declining trend for the 25 and over age group, while the 15–24 age group is showing increases over time.

Health and wellbeing

Self-rated health has deteriorated over time, across all age groups and duration cohorts. Older participants are typically less likely to rate their health as “Excellent”, “Very Good” or “Good”. There has also been a decline in dentist visits.

- Self-rated health – 52% (6.2 pp decrease)
- Dentist visits – 3.9 pp decrease to 50%

Relationships

Increasing desire to see friends and family more often.

- 36% would like to see family more often and 59% would like to see friends more often (a 6.6 and 9.3 percentage point increase, respectively)

* Unless otherwise stated, changes are over five years. Where numbers are too small to show five year results, changes are for three or four years, as stated

Benchmarking to the Australian population

Overall, participants' education, employment and health-related outcomes are generally poorer than for the Australian population. However, the trend is improving on some of these indicators and getting closer to that of the general population (e.g. completing year 12 or above, working 15 or more hours).

Participants aged 15 and over are also less likely than the Australian population to rate their health positively and are more likely to have attended hospital in the past 12 months, although the trend for the latter indicator is improving. On a positive note, participants are more likely to have a regular doctor than the Australian population.

Final remarks

This report summarises longitudinal outcomes for participants entering the Scheme from 1 July 2016, and who have been in the Scheme for one year or more at 30 June 2022, providing a picture of how participants are progressing under the NDIS.

For this year's report, a new approach has been taken to dealing with participants who transition to an older age group. This approach increases the amount of data included in the analysis, and allows a continuous longitudinal view of participant outcomes at different life stages and durations within the Scheme.

The results provide insight into how the Scheme is making a difference and point to areas where improvements may be required.

Background

This report



This report summarises longitudinal outcomes for participants entering the Scheme from 1 July 2016, and who have been in the Scheme for one year or more at 30 June 2022, using data available as at 30 June 2022.

The purpose of the report is to provide a picture of how participants are progressing under the NDIS, based on information provided by them in interviews conducted using the NDIS outcomes framework questionnaires.

The report summarises the number, extent and nature of changes across key outcome indicators. The results are intended to provide insight into how the Scheme is making a difference, and point to any areas where improvements may be required.

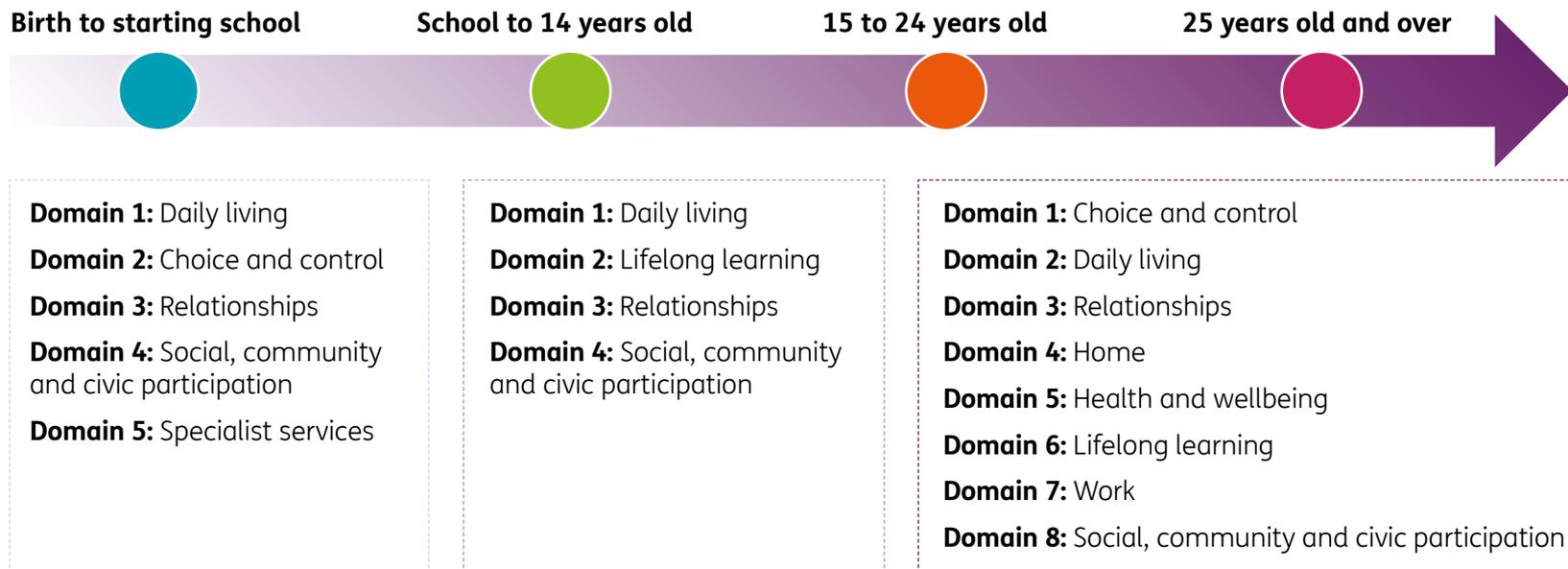
The present report builds on the work of previous reports:

<https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/participant-outcomes-report>

Outcomes framework

A lifespan approach to measuring participants' goals and outcomes across main life domains has been used.

Lifespan approach: four age-based cohorts



While most domains overlap, goals and outcomes may differ depending on the age group.

This approach facilitates monitoring of participants' progress over time, as well as benchmarking to Australians without disability and to other OECD countries.

Short Form and Long Form



The **Short Form (SF)** outcomes questionnaire is completed by all participants, and contains questions useful for planning as well as key indicators to monitor and benchmark over time.

The **Long Form (LF)** is completed for a subset of participants, and includes some additional questions allowing more detailed investigation of participant experience, and additional benchmarking.

For both the SF and the LF, participants are interviewed at baseline (Scheme entry), and approximately annually thereafter. Following the same group of participants longitudinally over time allows within-individual changes in outcomes to be investigated.

Progression towards better outcomes



Success should be measured on how far participants have come since entering the Scheme (at “baseline”), acknowledging different starting points.

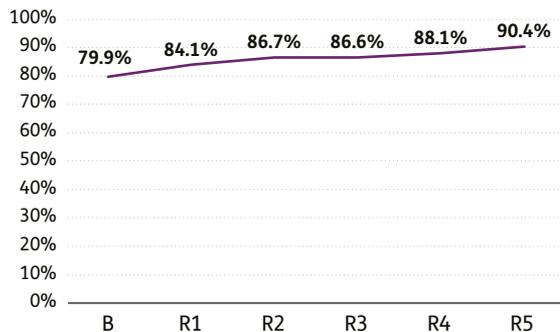
Whilst some outcomes should improve relatively quickly (such as assistance with daily living), others are much more long-term in nature (for example, employment), and measurable progress may take some years to emerge.

Participants do not enter the Scheme on an equal footing – baseline outcomes vary by a number of factors, such as:

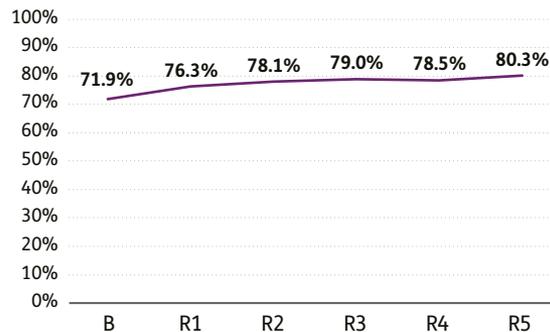
- the nature of the participant’s disability and how it affects their life
- the extent of support received from family and friends
- how inclusive their community is
- their health and other personal traits.

Participants age 15 and over

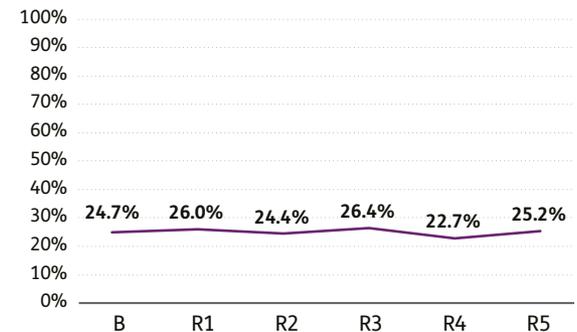
% who get support for domestic tasks



% who spend free time doing activities that interest them



% who are currently working in a paid job



Age group transitions

Moving to a different survey form



- Previous annual outcomes reports were structured with separate sections for each of the four participant age groups.
- Participants were tracked in the age group to which they belonged when they entered the Scheme until they left that age group, after which they were excluded from the analysis.
- This year's report has been restructured in order to increase the amount of data included in the analysis.
- This is done by moving from an analysis by age group, to an analysis by indicator.
- The approach effectively relaxes the strict segregation by age group, enabling progress to be viewed across the wider life course.
- Analysis is still presented in two groups more loosely based on age:
 - The early years (participants aged 0 to 14)
 - The adult years (participants aged 15 and over).

Refer to the Appendix for further details of the age transition approach.

Age group transitions

Graphical presentation of results



Results are presented in this report using two key types of graphs:

a) One that is broken down by cohort or years since baseline

b) Another that provides additional detail in the form of an age group breakdown.

For those graphs presented by age group, age transition information is shown in the legend as follows:

Age group	Description
0-5	Participant has ONLY answered the P0to5 form since entering the Scheme
0-5/5-14	Participant has AGED UP into the P5to14 form since entering the Scheme
5-14	Participant has ONLY answered the P5to14 form since entering the Scheme
5-14/15-24	Participant has AGED UP into the P15to24 form since entering the Scheme
15-24	Participant has ONLY answered the P15to24 form since entering the Scheme
15-24/25+	Participant has AGED UP into the 25+ form since entering the Scheme
25+	Participant has ONLY answered the P25+ form since entering the Scheme

COVID-19 pandemic



As noted in the previous two years' reports, the global pandemic that took hold from early 2020 is likely to have had an impact on at least some participant outcomes, such as community participation, and for older age groups.

For more information on the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on outcomes to 30 June 2020, see:

<https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/covid-19-impact-participant-and-familycarer-outcomes-30-june-2020>

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has also been considered as part of the analysis of employment outcomes at 31 December 2020:

<https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/employment-outcomes-participants-their-families-and-carers>

Number of respondents

The table below summarises the number of total respondents by question type in each longitudinal cohort, for both SF and LF.

Forms covered (P0toSS*, PSto14*, P15to24*, P25plus*)	Short Form (SF)					Long Form (LF)				
	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
✓ x x x	30,335	10,217	2,336	366	27	872	225	42	<20**	<20**
✓ ✓ x x	61,816	43,721	26,702	14,558	4,618	1,958	950	425	165	33
x ✓ x x	44,847	30,744	18,600	8,459	2,172	1,278	577	256	101	27
x ✓ ✓ x	57,406	43,184	29,948	17,289	7,123	1,699	845	413	185	87
x x ✓ x	19,502	14,728	9,936	4,931	1,632	550	313	105	39	<20**
x x ✓ ✓	69,248	52,244	40,105	22,842	9,674	2,052	1,089	566	264	76
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	124,121	93,677	68,219	41,299	17,611	NA***	NA***	NA***	NA***	NA***

* P0toSS=participants aged from 0 to before starting school; PSto14=participants aged from starting school to 14; P15to24=participants aged from 15 to 24; P25plus=participants aged 25 and over.

** Exact participant numbers are not shown for cohorts with less than 20 participants.

*** There are no questions in the Participant Long Form (LF) that are applicable to all four age groups.

The early years:

Participants aged 0 to 14

Participants aged 0 to 14

Domains and outcomes



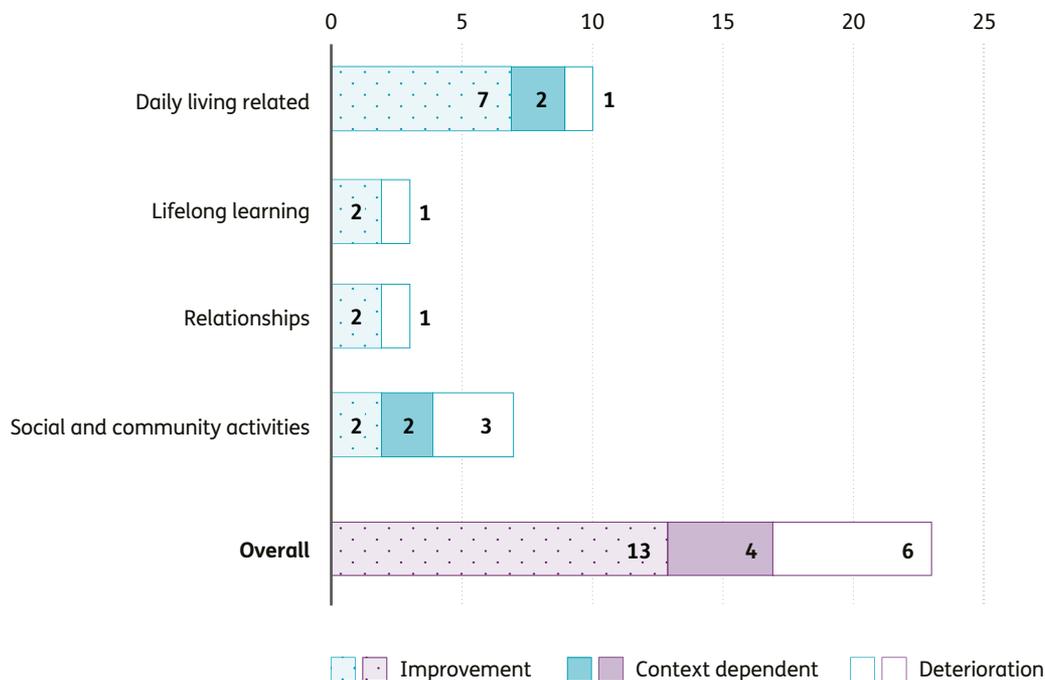
For participants aged 0 to 14, the outcomes framework seeks to measure the extent to which participants are reaching the following outcomes.

Domain	Outcomes for participants aged:	
	0 to before starting school	School to 14
Daily living – development and independence	Gaining functional, developmental and coping skills appropriate to their ability and circumstances	Growing in independence
	Showing evidence of autonomy in their everyday lives (choice and control)	
Daily living – specialist services	Using specialist services that assist them to be included in families and communities	N/A
Relationships	Participating meaningfully in family life	Forming friendships with peers and having positive relationships with family
Social, community and civic participation	Participating meaningfully in community life	Participating in local social and recreational activities
Lifelong learning	N/A	Being welcomed and educated in their local school

Participants aged 0 to 14

Summary of changes

Number of indicators with significant and material overall change by domain¹



¹ Indicators are deemed to show “significant and material overall change” if they meet the following criteria:

- McNemar test for unadjusted change from baseline significant at the 5% level
- Absolute value of change from baseline greater than 0.02, both before and after adjustment for normal age-related development
- Unadjusted and adjusted changes have the same sign
- The above criteria hold for at least two of the longitudinal cohorts

Numbers of indicators meeting the above criteria are presented. A total of 78 indicators were considered.

Summary of trend by selected indicators

↑ Improvement
 ↓ Deterioration (decrease in positive indicator)
 ↑ Deterioration (increase in negative indicator)
 Context dependent

Domain	Age group	Indicator	Change
Daily living	0 to school	% who use specialist services (e.g. speech pathology, occupational therapy) that assist their learning and development	↑
	0 to school	% who say services help their child gain the skills she/he needs to participate in everyday life (e.g. go to preschool)	↑
	0 to school	% who say services support them to assist their child	↑
	0 to school	% with concerns about development in six or more areas	↑
	School to 14	% who say child is becoming more independent	↑
	0 to school	% who say child is able to do everyday tasks most of the time	↑
	0 to 14	% who say child is able to manage the demands of their world (pretty well or very well)	↑
Relationships	0 to 14	% who say child can make friends with people outside the family	↑
	0 to 14	% who say child fits well into the everyday life of the family	↑
Social, community and civic participation	School to 14	% of children who spend time after school or on weekends with friends and/or in mainstream programs	↓
	School to 14	Of those children who spend time after school and on weekends with friends and/or in mainstream programs, % feeling welcomed or actively included	↓
	0 to school	Of those who participate, % who feel welcomed or actively included	↑
	0 to school	% who would like their child to be more involved in community activities	■
	School to 14	% who would like their child to have more opportunity to be involved in activities with other children	■
Lifelong learning	School to 14	% who say that their child's disability is a barrier to greater involvement in activities with other children	↑
	School to 24	% children/ young adults who attend or attended school in a mainstream class	↓
	School to 24	% who know their child's goals at school	↑

Participants aged 0 to 14

Daily living – specialist services

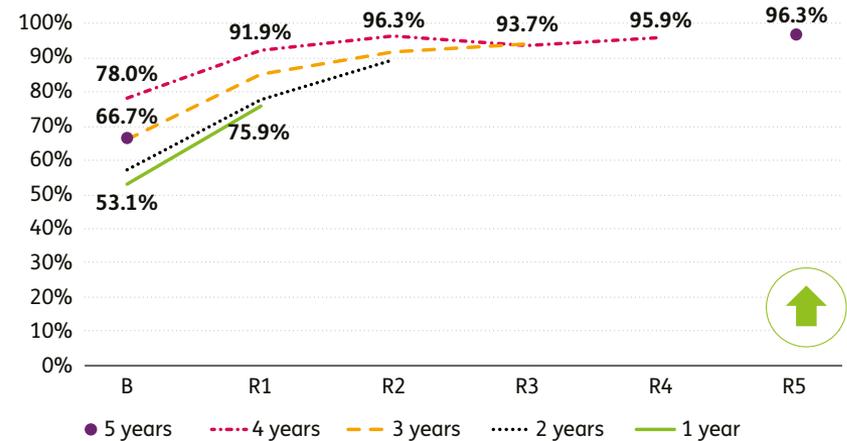
Use of services

My child uses specialist services (e.g. speech pathology, occupational therapy) that assist their learning and development¹

The percentage increases strongly over the first year in the Scheme (by 14 to 23 percentage points), with smaller but still substantial increases (4 to 11 percentage points) in the second year.

After four or five years in the Scheme, 96% of respondents say that their child uses specialist services that assist their learning and development.

Single group (P0toSS), by time in Scheme



¹ The chart shows the percentage who say their child uses specialist services that assist their learning and development, separately for those who have been in the Scheme for approximately one to five years. For those in the Scheme for five years, only baseline and review 5 percentages are shown, since the numbers are too small to show percentages at other review time points.

Participants aged 0 to 14

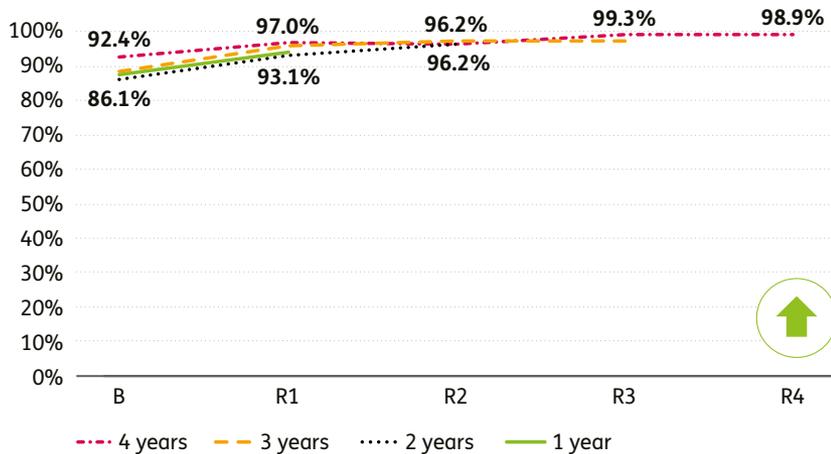
Daily living – specialist services

Gaining skills and assisting child¹

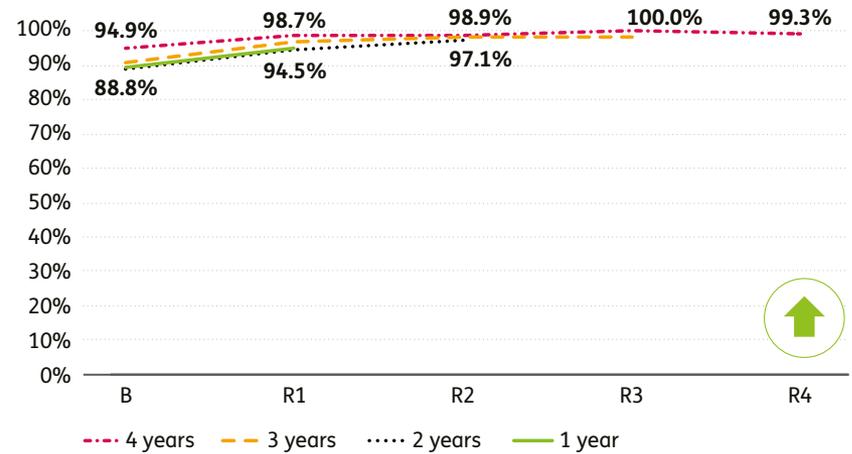
Single group (P0toSS), by time in Scheme

Overall, there is a slight increasing trend in the percentage of parents/carers who report that the specialist services help their child to gain key skills and support them in assisting their child. However, the largest percentage point increase is consistently seen in the first year across all cohorts – between 3.8 and 7.5 percentage points. After four years in the Scheme, 98.9% of respondents felt that the services their child receives helps their child to gain key skills and 99.3% believed that the services support them in assisting their child. This is a 6.5 and 4.3 percentage point increase since baseline, respectively. Children in the Scheme for two years experienced the largest increases since baseline on both indicators – 10.1 and 8.2 percentage points, respectively.

These services help my child gain the skills she/he needs to participate in everyday life (e.g. go to preschool)



These services support me to assist my child



¹ The chart shows the percentage who say that services help their child gain needed skills and/ or services support me to assist my child, separately for those who have been in the Scheme for approximately one to four years. Cohort 5 (i.e. those in the Scheme for five years) is not shown for these two indicators due to insufficient numbers.

Participants aged 0 to 14

Daily living – development

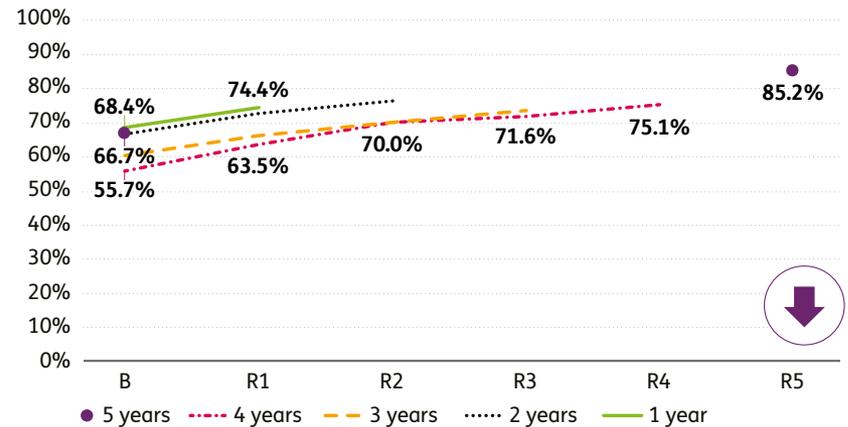
Concerns about development in eight areas

Single group (P0toSS), by time in Scheme

Concerns about development in six or more areas^{1,2}

There has been an increase in the percentage of respondents reporting concerns about development in six or more areas between baseline and latest review period across all cohorts. For participants in the Scheme for **five years**, the increase between baseline and fifth review was 18.5 percentage points from 66.7% to 85.2%.² For participants in the Scheme for **four years**, the increase between baseline and fourth review was 19.4 percentage points from 55.7% to 75.1%, including a 3.5 percentage point increase in the latest year.

For participants in the Scheme for **three years**, the increase between baseline and third review was 13.4 percentage points from 60.2% to 73.6%, including a 3.5 percentage point increase in the latest year. For participants in the Scheme for **two years**, the increase between baseline and third review was 9.8 percentage points from 66.5% to 76.3%, including a 3.6 percentage point increase in the latest year. While for participants who have been in the Scheme for **one year**, there was an increase of 6.0 percentage points.



¹ Parents/carers are asked whether they have concerns about their child's development in eight areas (shown on the next slide). This slide shows the percentage who say they have concerns in six or more of these eight areas. Note that an increase in the percentage indicates deterioration.

² For those in the Scheme for five years, only baseline and review 5 percentages are shown, since the numbers are too small to show percentages at other review time points.

Participants aged 0 to 14

Daily living – development

Concerns about development in eight areas

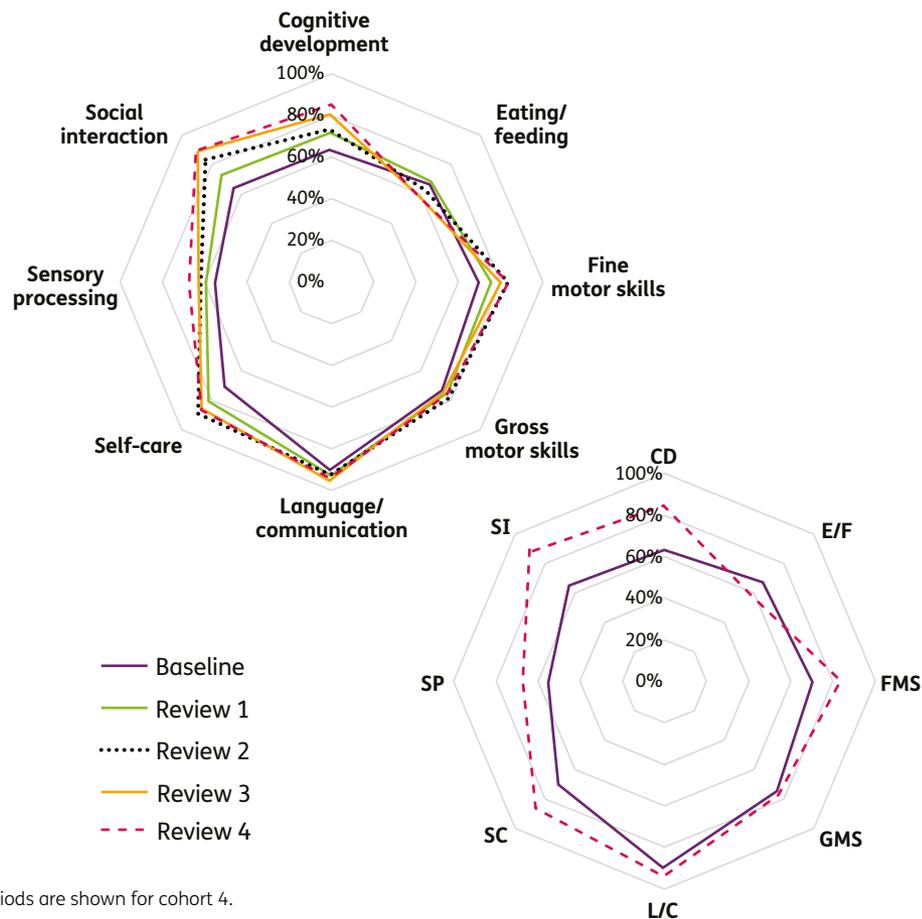
Participants who have been in the Scheme for four years¹

Language/communication was the area with the highest percentage of concerns at fourth review (94.0%), followed by social interaction (89.0%) and self-care (86.2%). Eating/feeding was by far the area with the lowest percentage of concerns (59.0%).

Compared to baseline, the percentage of parents/carers expressing concern about their child’s development after four years in the Scheme has:

- increased by 12 or more percentage points in five areas – social interaction (24.5 percentage points), cognitive development (21.3 percentage points), self-care (15.7 percentage points), fine motor skills (13.8 percentage points) and sensory processing (12.1 percentage points)
- increased slightly for gross motor skills and language/communication by 1.4 and 3.8 percentage points, respectively
- decreased by 8.3 percentage points for eating/feeding.

Over the latest year there were small changes across most areas (between -1.2 and +2.1 percentage points), while three areas had larger deterioration – sensory processing, cognitive development, and fine motor skills (4.9, 4.1 and 3.6 percentage points, respectively).



¹ Due to small numbers in cohort 5 (i.e. those in the Scheme for five years), baseline and review periods are shown for cohort 4.

Participants aged 0 to 14

Daily living – independence

Improving independence

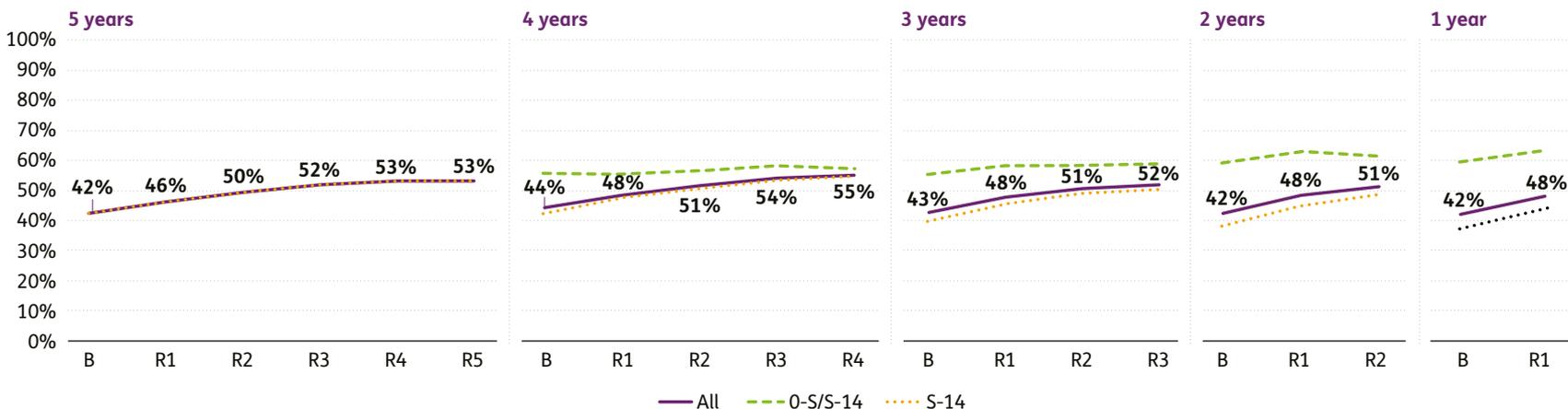
Time since first in PSto14

My child is becoming more independent

For participants who have been in the Scheme for five years, the percentage increased by 10.9 percentage points between baseline (42.4%) and fifth review (53.3%). For the C1 to C4 cohorts, there were increases of 6.2, 8.9, 9.2 and 10.9 percentage points, respectively, from baseline. Across all cohorts (particularly C1 and C2), the largest improvement was at first review.

Overall, a higher percentage of respondents in the 0-S/S-14¹ group reported that their child is becoming more independent, compared to the S-14 group (at baseline and all review points). For example, 57.2% and 54.8% of C4 respondents said that their child is becoming more independent at review 4 for the 0-S/S-14 and S-14 groups, respectively.

However, improvements over time are substantially smaller in the 0-S/S-14 group, compared to children in the School to 14 age group (S-14). For example, for cohort four, there was an increase of 1.7 percentage points for the 0-S/S-14, compared to 12.4 percentage points for the S-14 group.



¹ The 0-S/S-14 group comprises children who entered the Scheme prior to starting school and have since aged/ transitioned up into the School to 14 age group. The S-14 age group refers to children who were between school age and 14 when they entered the Scheme.

Participants aged 0 to 14

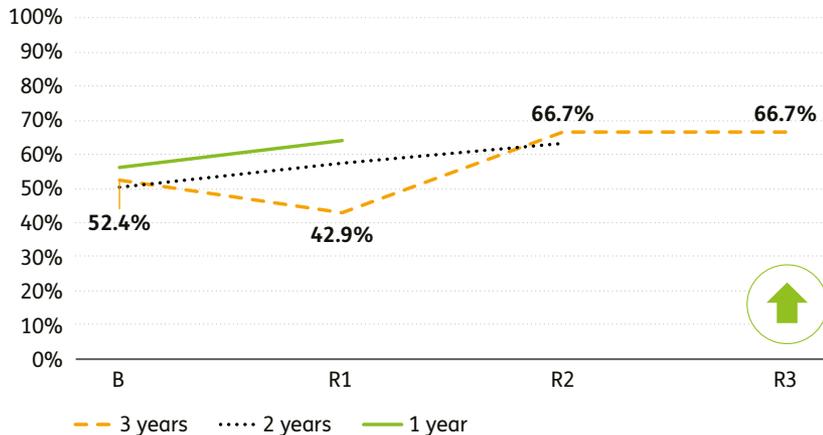
Daily living – independence

Everyday tasks and managing demands of their world

Single group (P0toSS), by time in Scheme

% of children who are able to do everyday tasks at home/ in the park/at childcare most of the time¹

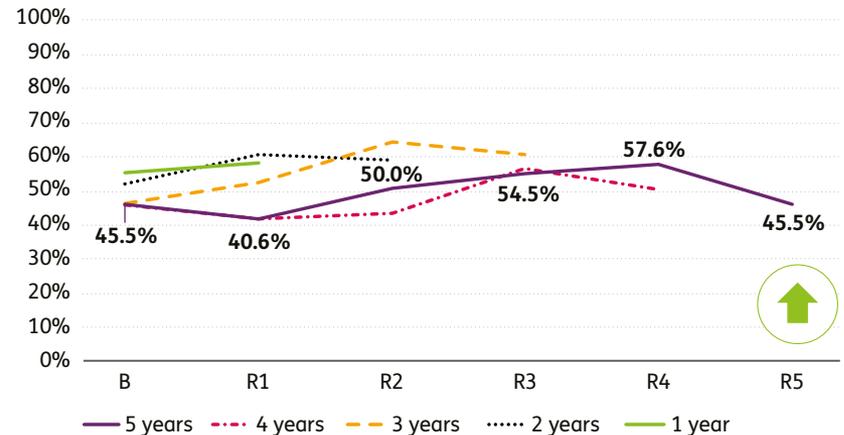
The percentage of parents/ carers reporting positive outcomes in relation to their young child (0 to SS) being able to do everyday tasks most of the time has increased from baseline to latest review for children in the Scheme one, two or three years – by 8.0, 12.9 and 14.3 percentage points respectively.



Combined group, by time in Scheme

% of children who manage the demands of their world (pretty well or very well)

For participants aged 0 to 14 who have been in the Scheme for one to four years, there is an overall increase of between 3.0 and 14.4 percentage points from baseline to latest review. However, the percentage of children who manage the demands of their world well has declined over the latest year in the Scheme for cohorts C2 to C5 – by between 1.6 and 12.1 percentage points.



¹ C4 and C5 cohorts (participants in the Scheme for four or five years) are not shown due to insufficient numbers for this indicator. There is some volatility in the C3 results due to small numbers.

Participants aged 0 to 14

Relationships

Friendships

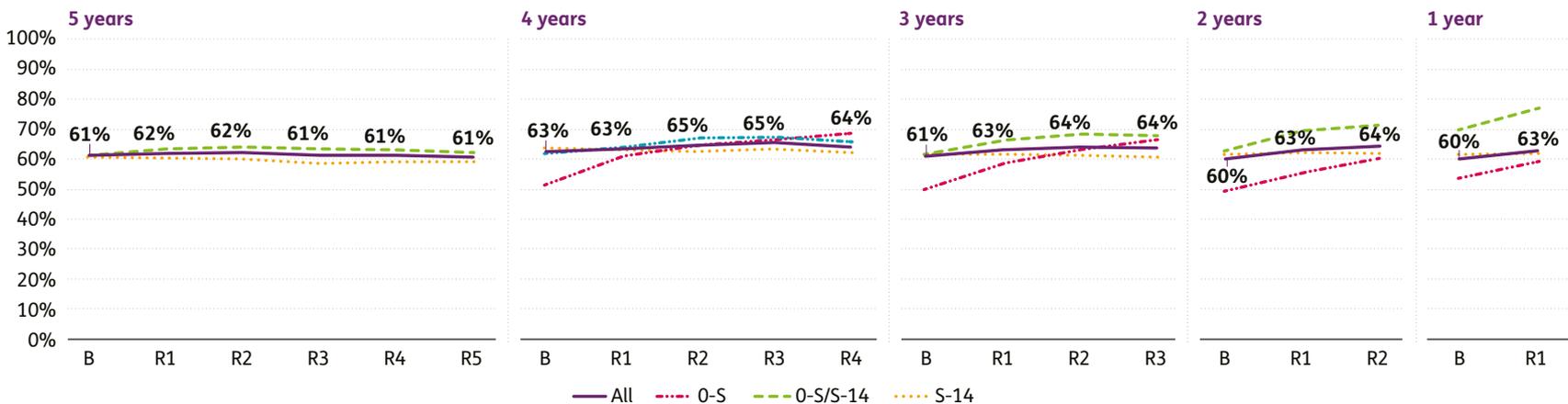
Combined group, by time in Scheme

My child can make friends with people outside the family

There is an increasing trend in the percentage of children who make friends with people outside the family for cohorts 1, 2 and 3, with the largest increase at first review (between 2.1 and 3.2 percentage points).

There are some differences by age group for all cohorts (except cohort 5):

- The 0–S/S–14 age group (for most cohorts and review periods) has the highest percentage of children who can make friends with people outside the family – 76.7% at review 1 (cohort 1). For those in the Scheme for three years, there was an increase of 5.9 percentage points from 61.7% to 67.6%. Larger increases are seen at first review for cohorts 2 and 3 in this age group (cohort 1 also shows a large increase over one year).
- The largest improvement over time is associated with the 0–S age group, with an increase of 17.0 percentage points for cohort 4 from 51.4% (baseline) to 68.4% (fourth review). There is a similar change for cohort 3.
- The S–14 age group has a slight declining trend in cohorts 3, 4 and 5.



Participants aged 0 to 14

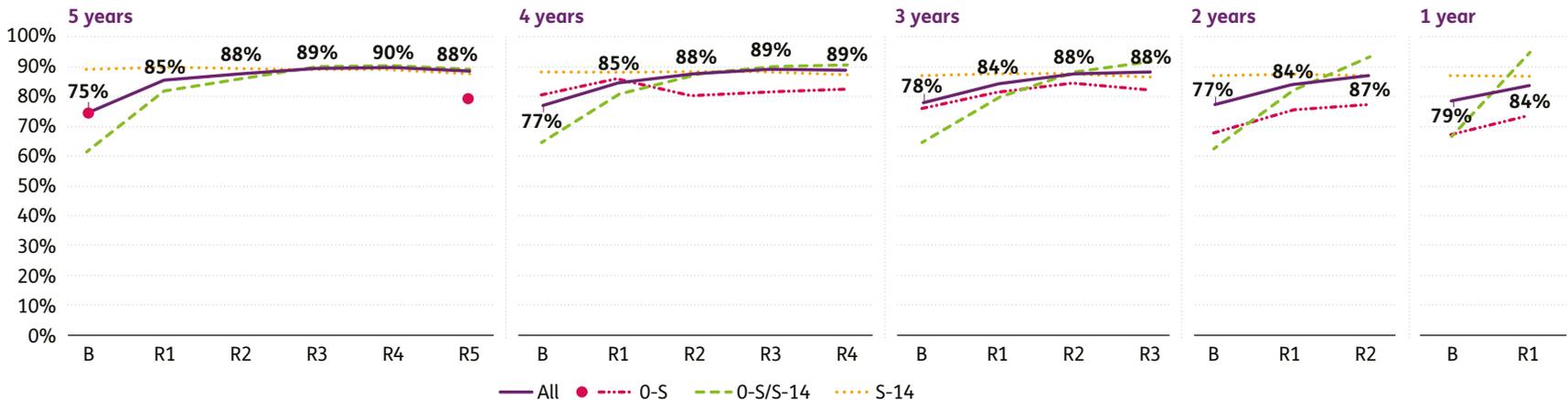
Relationships

Family life

Combined group, by time in Scheme

My child fits well into the everyday life of the family¹

- There is an increasing trend in the percentage of parents/ carers reporting that their child fits in with the everyday life of the family, with positive changes for all cohorts between baseline and latest review. The largest improvement occurs at first review, for all cohorts. For cohort 5, there is a 13.9 percentage point increase between baseline (74.5%) and fifth review (88.4%), although there was a 1.4 percentage point decrease between review 4 and 5.
- Considering age group, the S-14 group is fairly stable across all cohorts and has an average of about 88% of respondents reporting that the child fits well into family life.
- The largest increases over time are evident for the 0-S/S-14 age group, with increases of between 26 and 30 percentage points, of which the most profound change occurs at first review. For example, for children in this age group who have been in the Scheme for five years, there is an increase of 27.4 percentage points from baseline (61.6%) to fifth review (89.0%).



¹ For those in the Scheme for five years, only baseline and review 5 percentages are shown, since the numbers are too small to show percentages at other review time points.

Participants aged 0 to 14

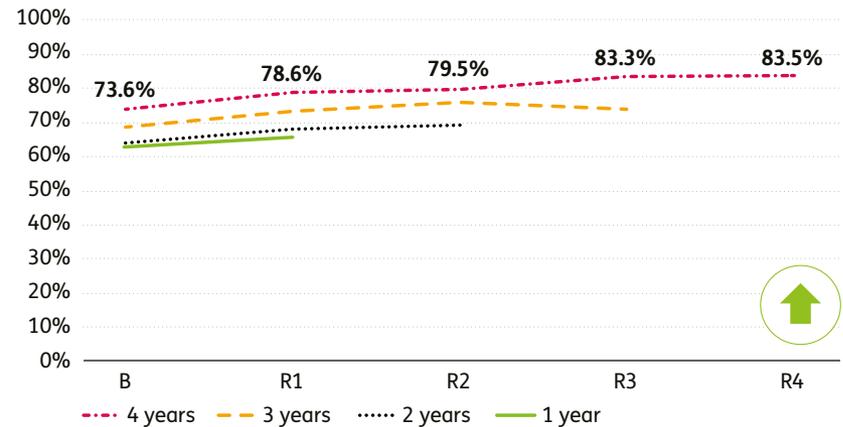
Social, community and civic participation

Feeling welcomed at community activities¹

Single group (P0toSS), by time in Scheme

Of those who participate, % who feel welcomed or actively included

Respondents report that children in the birth to starting school age group who participate in community activities generally feel welcomed or actively included (83.5% after four years). This is an increase of 9.9 percentage points over the four years since baseline. Similar trends can be seen for the other cohorts, notwithstanding a decrease of 2 percentage points between review two and three for cohort three. The largest increase is generally seen at first review across all cohorts – e.g. 5 percentage points for cohort four.



¹ Results for cohort 5 (C5) are not shown due to insufficient numbers for this indicator.

Participants aged 0 to 14

Social, community and civic participation

Time since first in PSto14

After school and/or weekend activities¹

There has been a slight decreasing trend between baseline and latest review in the percentage of children who spend time after school or on weekends with friends and/or in mainstream programs. For children who have been in the Scheme for five years, 31% participated in activities at their five year review, compared to 34% at baseline.



¹ Percentage of children who spend time after school and on weekends with friends and/ or in mainstream programs.

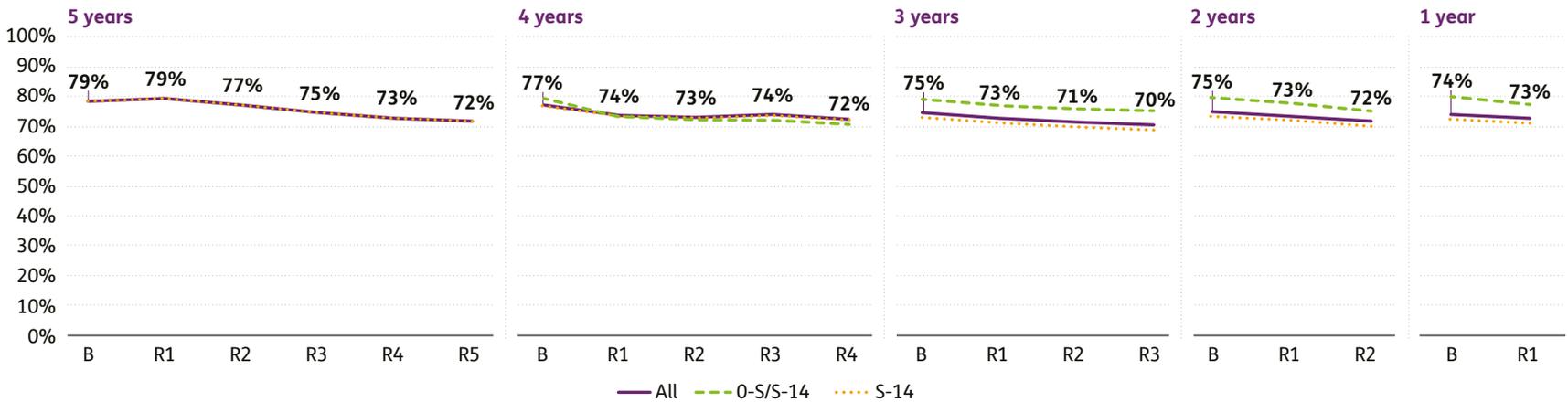
Participants aged 0 to 14

Social, community and civic participation

Time since first in PSto14

Those who are welcomed or actively include (at activities)¹

Of those children who spend time after school and on weekends with friends and/or in mainstream programs, the percentage feeling welcomed or actively included is declining over time – by 6.8 percentage points for cohort C5 between baseline (79%) and fifth review (72%). Those who transitioned up from the 0 to School age group (0-S/S-14) had higher percentages feeling welcomed or actively included for cohorts C1 to C3. For cohort C4, there was an overall deterioration of 4.8 percentage points; however, this was more pronounced (8.2 percentage point drop) in those who transitioned up from the 0 to School age group (0-S/S-14).



¹ Of those who spend time after school and on weekends with friends and/or in mainstream programs, % who are welcomed or actively included.

Social, community and civic participation

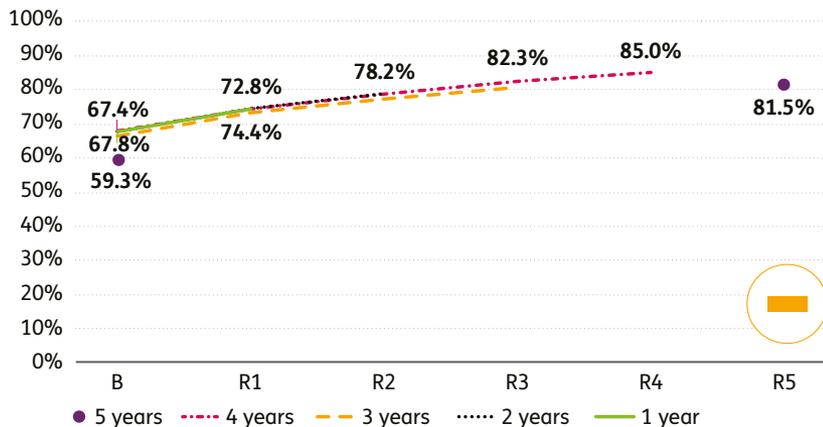
Involvement in community activities¹

Single group (P0toSS), by time in Scheme

Time since first in PSto14

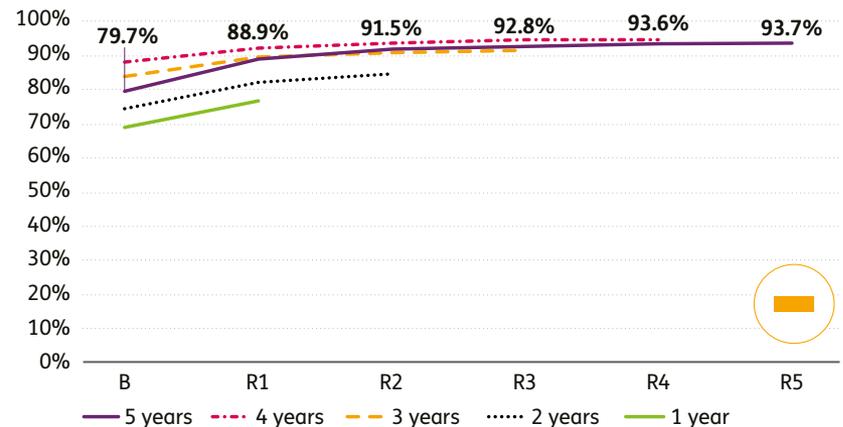
% of parents/carers who would like their child to be more involved in community activities

There is an increasing trend in the percentage of parents/ carers who would like their child to be more involved in community activities across all cohorts, with the extent of change increasing by years in the Scheme for the 0 to School age group (e.g. 6.6 percentage points for cohort 1 up to 22.2 percentage points for cohort 5).²



% who say they would like their child to have more opportunity to be involved in activities with other children

For school aged children (School to 14), the percentage of respondents who want their child to have more opportunity to be involved in activities with other children has increased for all four cohorts since baseline. However, the increases are most pronounced in the first year of responding to this item. For example, for children in the Scheme for five years, there was a change of 9.2 percentage points at first review, compared to 0.8 and 0.1 percentage points at fourth and fifth review, respectively.



1 Percentage of respondents who would like their child to: a) be more involved in community activities (P0toSS); b) have more opportunity to be involved in activities with other children (PSto14).
 2 For those in the Scheme for five years, only baseline and review 5 percentages are shown, since the numbers are too small to show percentages at other review time points.

Social, community and civic participation

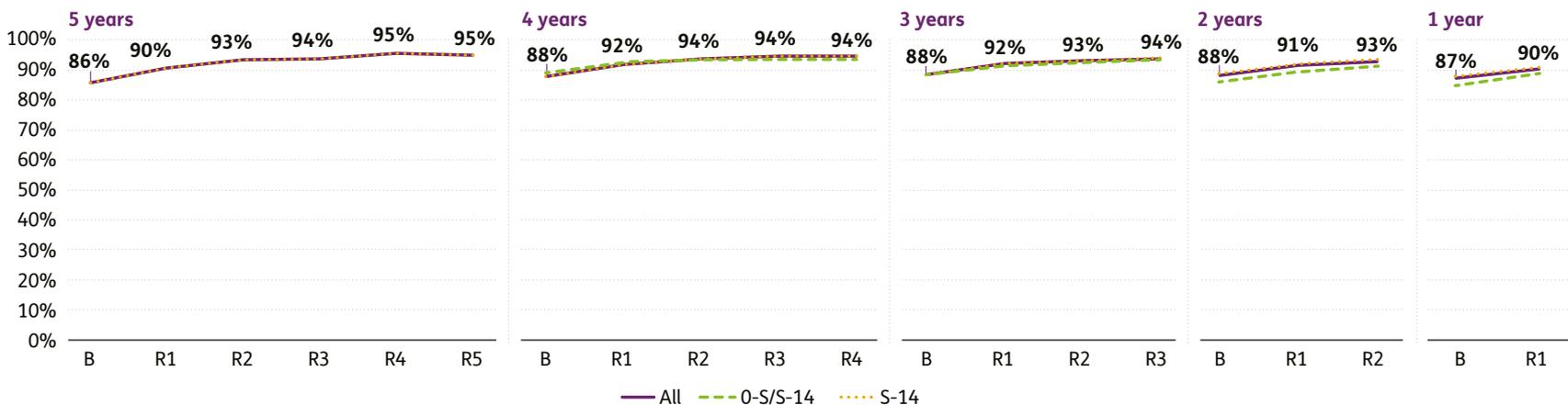
Concerns about involvement in activities with other children

Time since first in PSto14

Respondents who see their child's disability as a barrier¹

The percentage who say that their child's disability is a barrier to greater involvement in activities with other children has increased for all five cohorts since baseline, with greater increases for children who have been in the Scheme longer. For the C1 to C5 cohorts, there have been increases of 2.8, 4.4, 5.2, 6.6 and 9.0 percentage points, respectively.

Nevertheless, the strongest increases are generally in the first two years. Further, there has been a stabilisation over the latest year for those in the Scheme four or five years.



¹ Of those who would like their child to be more involved in activities with other children, % who see their child's disability as a barrier (PSto14).

Participants aged 0 to 14

Lifelong learning

Mainstream class

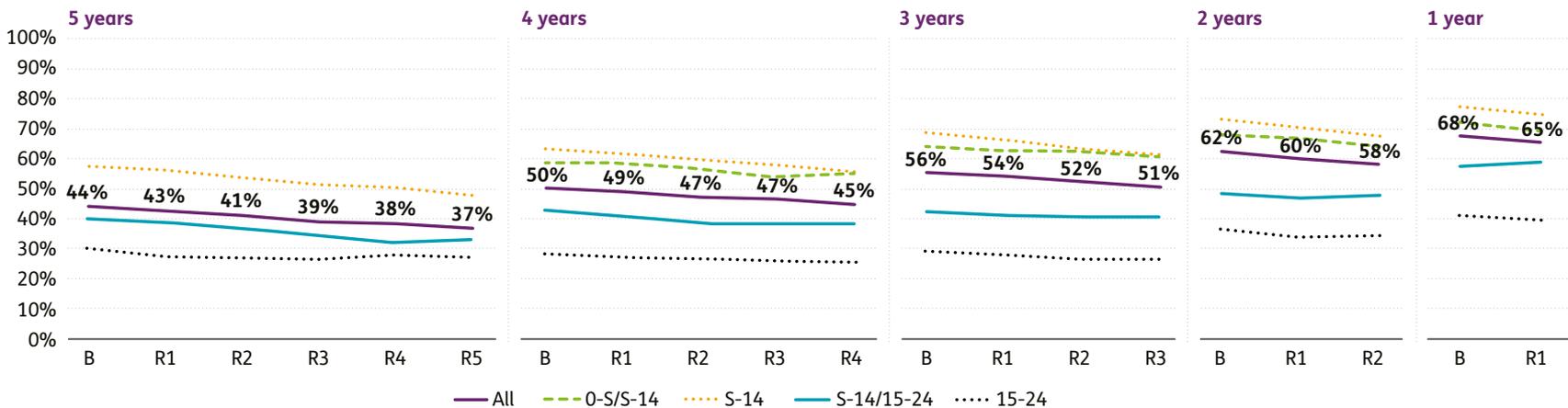
For P0toSS, analyse by time since first in PSto14, otherwise by time in Scheme

Children/young adults who attend or attended school in a mainstream class¹

There has been a deterioration across all cohorts in the percentage who attend (or have attended) school in a mainstream class. For the C5 cohort, the percentage attending school in a mainstream class decreased by 7.2 percentage points between baseline and fifth review, from 44.1% to 36.9%, including a 1.3 percentage point decline in the latest year.

The 15–24 age group has by far the lowest percentage of participants who attend or have attended school in a mainstream class (10 to 27 percentage points lower than the combined group), and the S–14 group has the highest percentage (9 to 14 percentage points higher). The transitioning groups are intermediate: the S–14/15–24 group being lower than average and the 0–S/S–14 group being higher than average.

There appears to be a cohort effect for this indicator, with higher levels observed for shorter duration cohorts (lines shift upwards moving from left to right).



¹ Note that this indicator includes responses from the School to 14 and 15 to 24 age group forms, so relates to children from school age to 24.

Participants aged 0 to 14

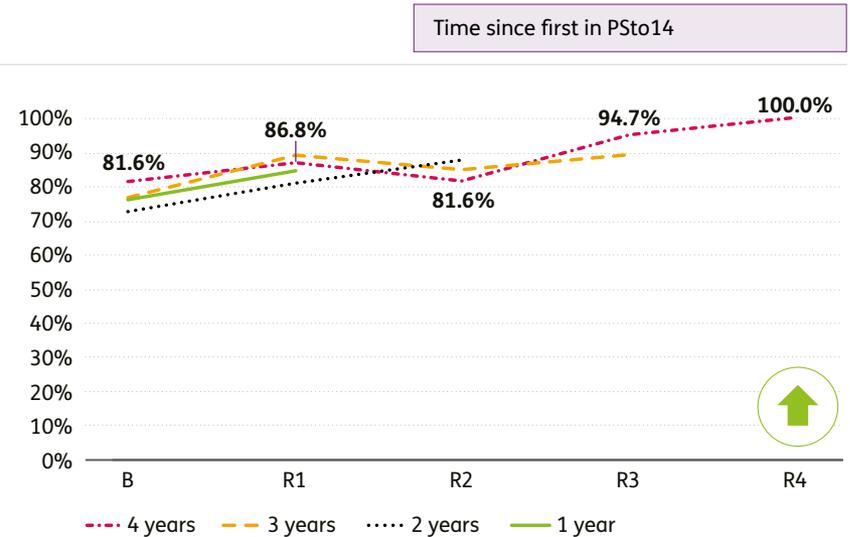
Lifelong learning

Goals at school

% who know their child's goals at school

Across all cohorts, there is an increasing trend in the percentage of parents/carers who know their child's goals at school. There was an 18.4 percentage point increase between baseline and fourth review¹ for participants in the C4 cohort, and 8.3, 14.5 and 12.2 percentage point increases for those in the C1, C2 and C3 cohorts, respectively.

For the C4 cohort, 100% of parents/carers report knowing their child's goals at school. The corresponding percentages for the C1, C2 and C3 cohorts are 84.4%, 87.5% and 89.2%, respectively.



¹ Note that due to small numbers for this LF indicator, the goals indicator is not available for participants in the Scheme for five years.

The adult years:

Participants aged 15 and over

Participants aged 15 and over

Domains and outcomes



The participant group aged 15 years and over comprises the following.

Age group	Participant characteristics
15 to 24	Young adults characterised by increasing levels of independence and participation in community, with some individuals moving out of the family home, and transitioning from school to employment or further study.
25 and over	Older adults, where employment is an important area. The older members of this cohort are also starting to transition to retirement. For both young and older adults, choice and control is a normal part of everyday life.

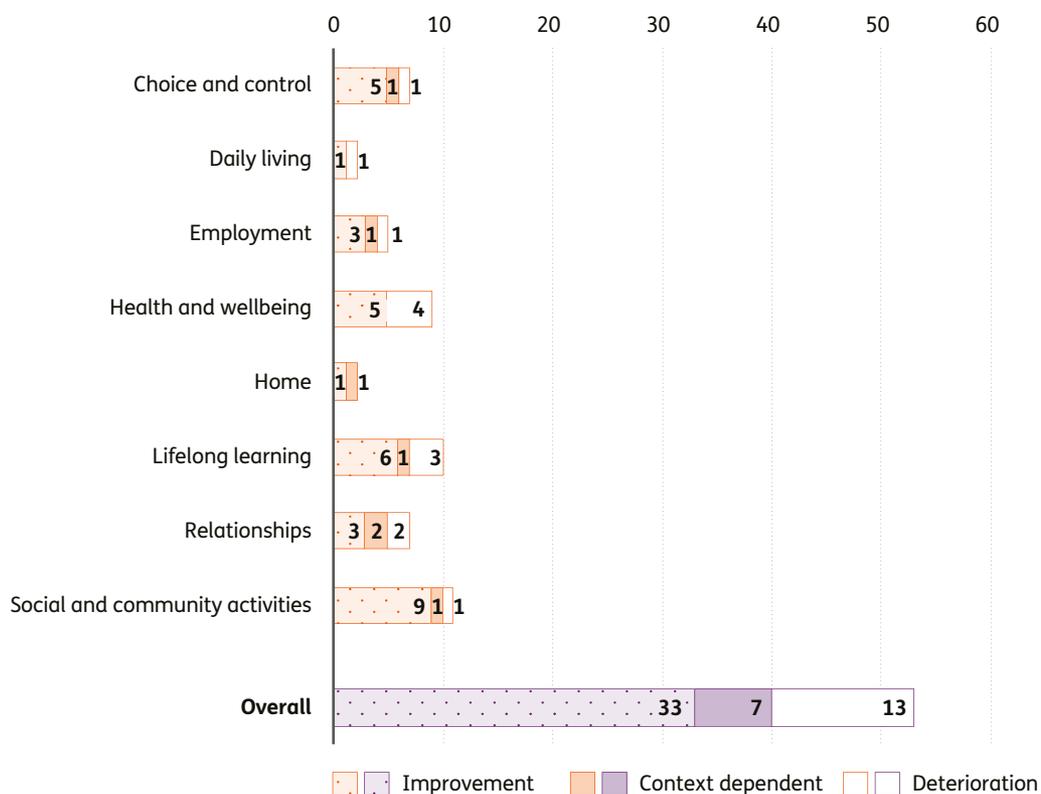
The eight outcome domains for participants aged 15 years and over are:

1. Choice and control	5. Health and wellbeing
2. Daily living	6. Lifelong learning
3. Relationships	7. Work
4. Home	8. Social, community and civic participation

Participants aged 15 and over

Summary of changes

Number of indicators with significant and material overall change by domain¹



¹ Indicators are deemed to show “significant and material overall change” if they meet the following criteria:

- McNemar test for change from baseline significant at the 5% level
- Absolute value of change from baseline greater than 0.02
- The above criteria hold for at least two of the longitudinal cohorts.

Numbers of indicators meeting the above criteria are presented. A total of 181 indicators were considered.

Participants aged 15 and over

Summary of trend by selected indicators

Improvement (increase in negative indicator)
 Deterioration (increase in negative indicator)
 Improvement (decrease in positive indicator)
 Deterioration (decrease in positive indicator)
 Context dependent

Domain	Age group	Indicator	Change
Lifelong learning	15 and over	% who get opportunities to learn new things	
		% who wanted to do a course or training in the last 12 months but could not	
		% who have completed year 12 or above	
		% currently participating in education, training or skill development	
Choice and control	15 to 24	% who do not have more independence/ control over their life than they did 2 years ago because of factors unrelated to their disability	
		% who make more decisions in their life than they did 2 years ago	
	15 and over	% who want more choice and control in their life	
		% who feel able to have a say with their support services (most or all of the time)	
		% who say they choose how they spend their free time	
		% who say they feel able to advocate (stand up) for themselves	
Relationships	15 to 24	% who get to see their friends without paid staff or family present	
		% who feel happy with their relationship with staff	
	15 and over	% who would like to see their family more often	
		% who would like to see their friends more often	
Home	15 to 24	% who make decisions in planning for a home of their own with or without the help of others	
	15 and over	% say they choose where they lived	
		% say they choose whom they lived with	

Participants aged 15 and over

Summary of trend by selected indicators

Improvement (increase in negative indicator)
 Deterioration (increase in negative indicator)
 Improvement (decrease in positive indicator)
 Deterioration (decrease in positive indicator)
 Context dependent

Domain	Age group	Indicator	Change
Social, community and civic participation	15 and over	% who spend their free time doing activities that interest them	
		% who have been actively involved in a community activity in the last 12 months	
		% who know people in their community	
		% who have taken part in leisure activities in the past 12 months	
		% who have opportunity to try new things and have new experiences	
		% who feel safe walking alone in their local area after dark	
		% who have a say within the general community	
		% who said there was something they wanted to do in the last 12 months, but could not	
Employment	15 and over	% who are currently working in a paid job	*
		Of those in a paid job, % working 15 hours or more per week	*
		% who are not working and not looking for work	
		For those who are currently not in a paid job, but would like one, % who have been assisted to get a job	
Health and wellbeing	15 and over	% who have a doctor they see on a regular basis	
		% who did not have any difficulties accessing health services	
		% who have been to hospital in the last 12 months	
		% who rate their health as excellent, very good or good	
		% who feel delighted, pleased or mostly satisfied about their life in general, now and in the future	
		% who have received the flu vaccination in the past 12 months	
		% who have visited a dentist in the past 12 months	

* Due to the importance of these employment indicators, they are included despite not meeting criteria for significance/materiality for the combined age group

Participants aged 15 and over

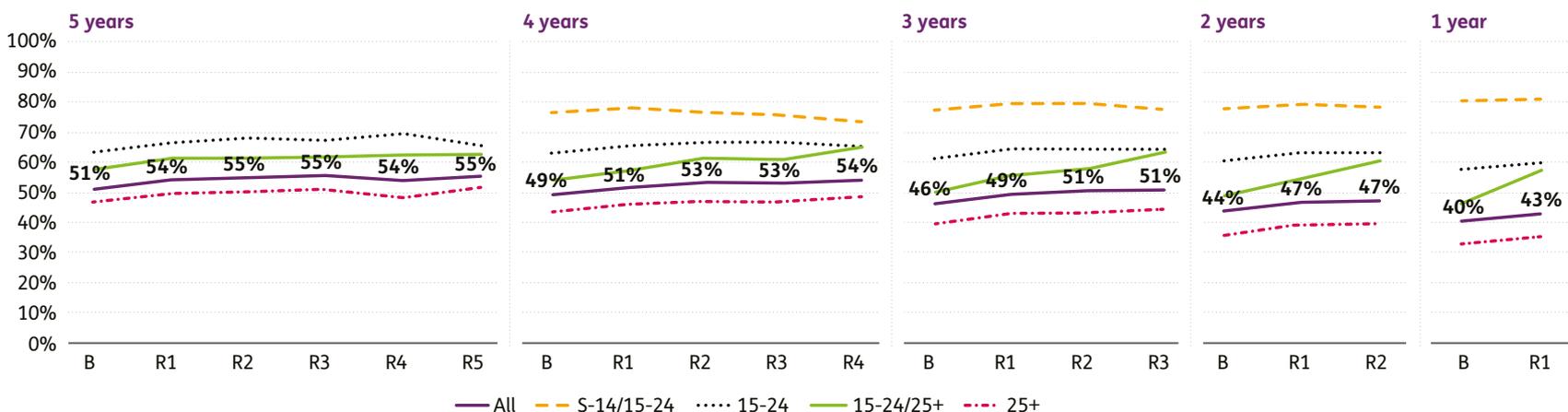
Lifelong learning

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Do you get opportunities to learn new things?

Overall, there is an increasing trend in the percentage of participants who reported getting opportunities to learn new things. The percentage increased (compared to baseline) by between 4.4 and 4.9 percentage points for the C3, C4 and C5 cohorts. However, the trend for this indicator differs by age group:

- A much higher percentage of participants in the S-14/15-24 reported positively on this indicator (i.e. above 73%) compared to other age groups. However there was no large longitudinal change except for cohort 4, where there was a deterioration between baseline and fourth review.
- The 15-24 age group had the next highest percentage of participants reporting positively on this indicator – 66% at fifth review (cohort 5), with a modest 2.2 to 3.0 percentage point increase between baseline and latest review (across all cohorts).
- The 15-24/25+ age group had a strong increasing trend, with gains of between 10.5 and 13.2 percentage points for cohorts 1 through 4.
- The 25+ age group also showed an increasing trend – between 2.3 and 5.0 percentage points. However, the group had a lower percentage of participants responding positively on the indicator, when compared to the other age groups.



Participants aged 15 and over

Lifelong learning

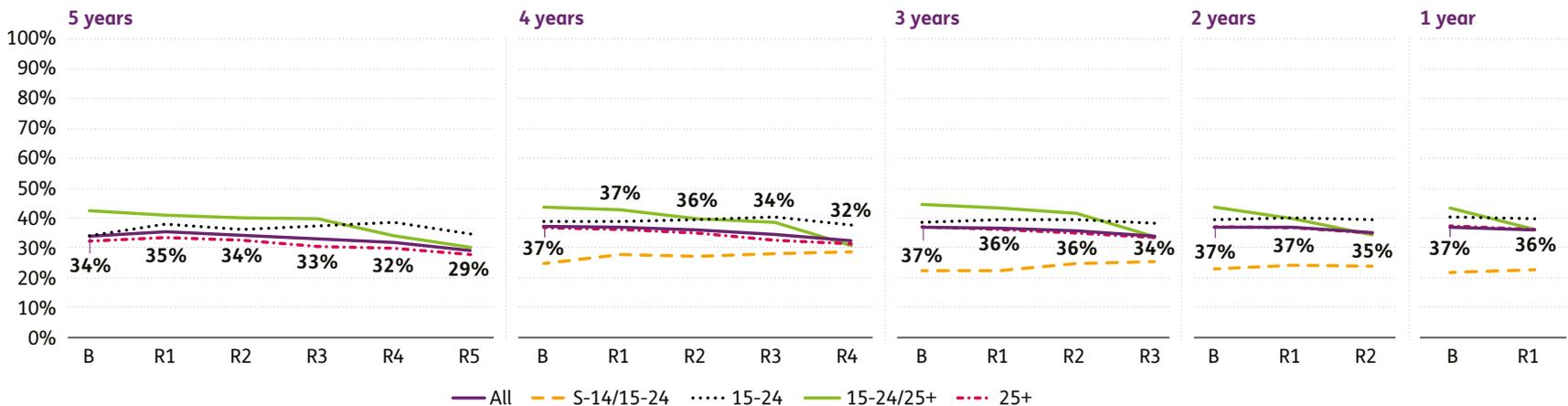
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who wanted to do a course or training in the last 12 months but could not

There is a decreasing trend (improvement) in the percentage of participants who wanted to do a course or training in the last 12 months, but could not. For C5, the percentage decreased from 33.8% at baseline to 29.0% at fifth review (4.8 percentage points). Similar improvement (5.0 percentage points) was observed for C4, with smaller improvements (1.0 to 3.2 percentage points) for C1 to C3.

There was some variation by age group:

- The youngest S-14/15-24 group reported lower (more favourable) percentages but an increasing (deteriorating) trend.
- The 15-24 age group was fairly stable across all cohorts.
- The 15-24/25+ group showed substantial improvement between baseline and latest review (e.g. 13 percentage point reductions for C4 and C5).
- The 25+ age group showed similar improvements to overall.



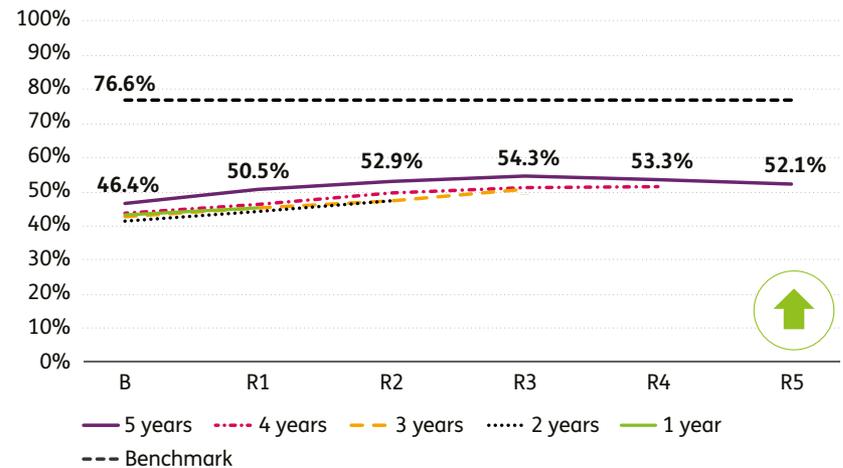
Participants aged 15 and over

Lifelong learning

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Completed year 12 or above – benchmark

Compared to the general Australian population¹ (76.6%), a substantially lower percentage of NDIS participants aged 15 and over have completed year 12 or above (across all cohorts). Notwithstanding, there is an increasing trend for cohorts 1 through 4. Cohort 5 displays an increasing trend to review three, with a decline between third and fifth review.



¹ Population benchmark data is from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Education and Work May 2021, standardised for NDIS participant gender distribution.

Participants aged 15 and over

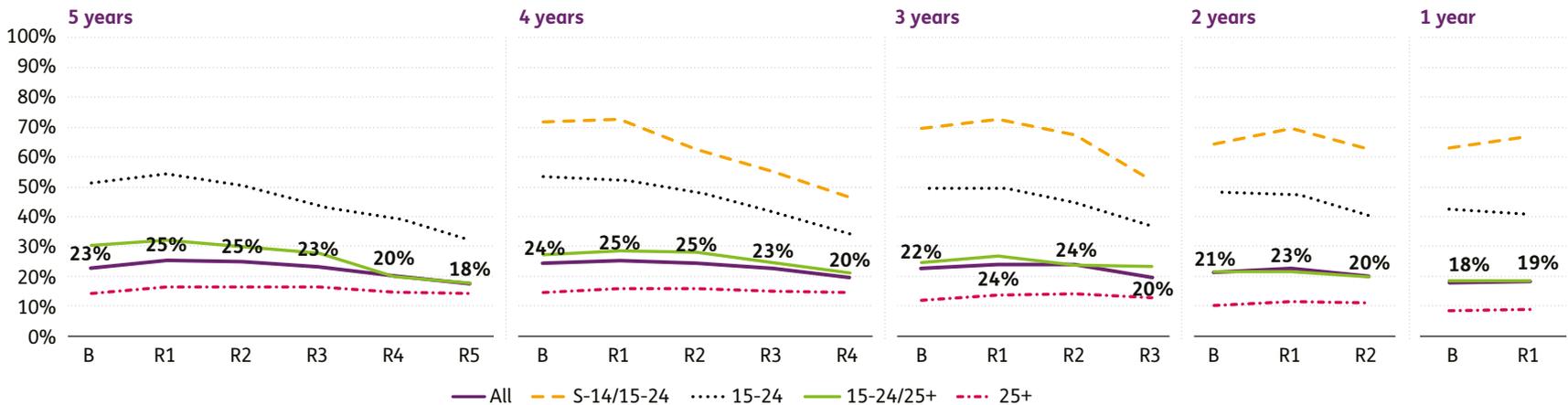
Lifelong learning

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% currently participating in education, training or skill development

After an initial increase in the first year, participation in education/training has shown a decreasing trend overall. For cohort 5, there was an overall decrease of 5.1 percentage points between baseline (22.7%) and fifth review (17.6%), despite a 2.6 percentage point increase at first review (25.3%).

- The S-14/15-24 group had by far the highest percentages participating, possibly due to still attending school. However, there was a decline of 25.2 percentage points over four years for cohort 4, from 71.8% to 46.5%.
- The 15-24 group also experienced a decline of 19.3 percentage points over four years for cohort 4, from 53.5% to 34.2%.
- The 25+ age group had the lowest percentages participating. For example, for cohort 5, about 14% of participants aged 25+ did some sort of education or training and this remained fairly stable across review periods. This is consistent across cohorts, although cohorts 1 and 2 had slightly lower percentages.



Participants aged 15 and over

Choice and control



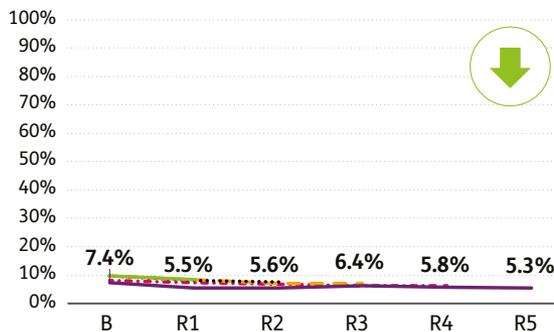
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Time since first in P15to24

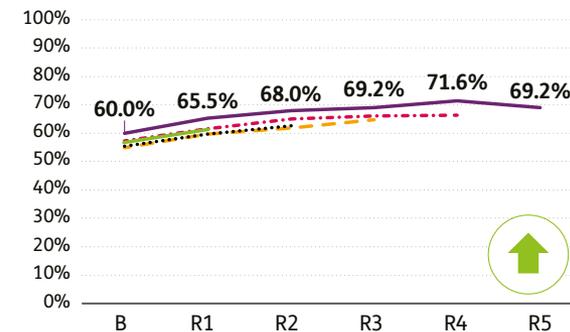
There are positive changes over time in choice and control outcomes across all cohorts.

- Participants aged 15 to 24 are increasingly likely to make more decisions in their life than they did 2 years ago (a 9.1 percentage point increase over five years). Gains are largest at first and second review, with smaller gains at later reviews. This is consistent across all cohorts. However, there is a 2.5 percentage point decrease at fifth review for cohort 5.
- The percentage of participants aged 15 to 24 who do not have more independence/control over their life than they did 2 years ago due to factors unrelated to their disability is declining (i.e. improving). For cohort 5 there was a 2.1 percentage point decrease between baseline (7.4%) and fifth review (5.3%). The largest decrease was at first review.
- There is an increasing trend in the percentage of participants aged 15 and over who want more choice and control in their life (a 16.6 percentage point increase over five years). This may suggest that participants are becoming more empowered and want more agency over their choices, or it may be flagging challenges to exerting choice and control.

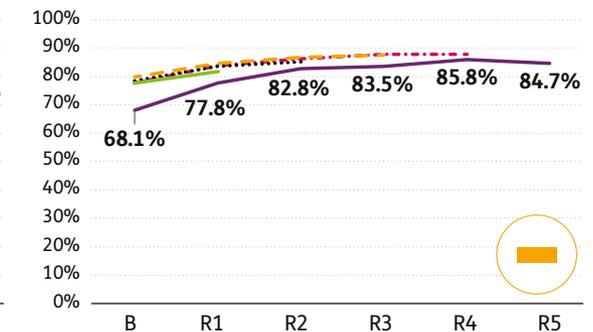
% who do not have more independence/control over their life than they did 2 years ago because of factors unrelated to their disability



% who make more decisions in their life than they did 2 years ago



% who want more choice and control in their life



— 5 years - - - 4 years - - - 3 years ····· 2 years — 1 year

Participants aged 15 and over

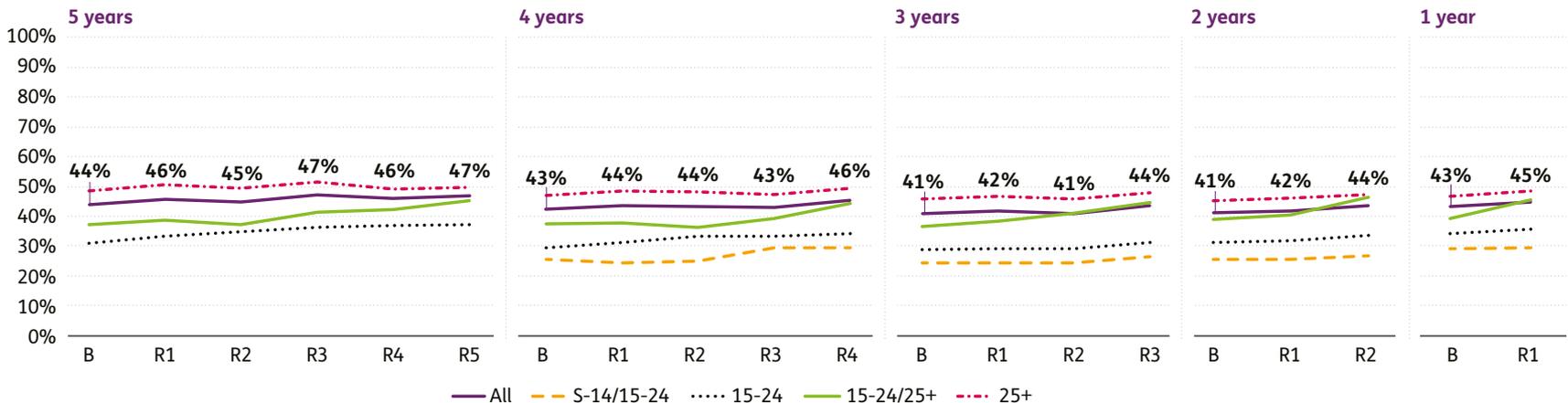
Choice and control

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who feel able to have a say with their support services (most or all of the time)

There is slight increasing trend in the overall percentage of participants who are able to have a say with their support services (most or all of the time). For Cohort 5 there was a three percentage point increase from 44.2% at baseline to 47.1% at fifth review (purple line). In terms of age group variation:

- A higher percentage of participants in the 25+ age group felt able to have a say with their support services, compared with other age groups. For example, 49.8% of participants aged 25+ felt able to have a say at fifth review, while 37.5% of participants aged 15–24 felt able to have a say. This is consistent across cohorts.
- The S–14/15–24 age group had the lowest percentage of participants who felt able to have a say – e.g. for cohort 4 fourth review it was 29.6% (a 3.9 percentage point increase), compared to 34.5%, 44.4% and 49.5% for age groups 15–24, 15–24/25+, and 25+, respectively.
- The 15–24/25+ age group displays the largest increases across all cohorts, with 45.4% of participants feeling able to have a say at fifth review – an 8.1 percentage point increase from baseline (37.3%).



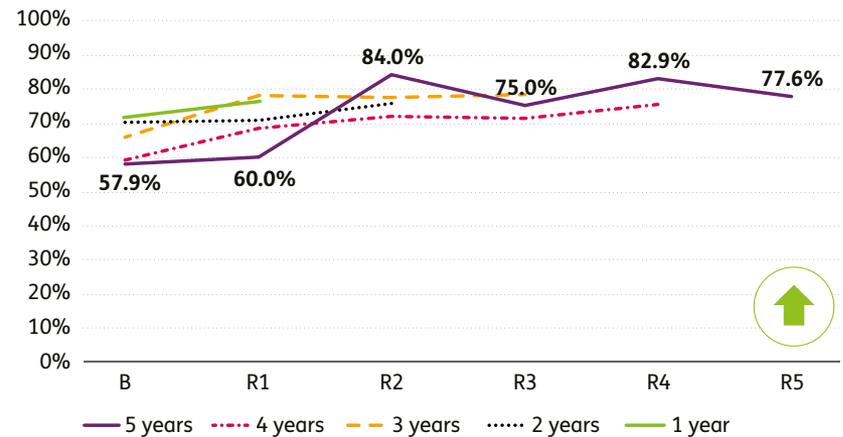
Participants aged 15 and over

Choice and control

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who say they choose how they spend their free time

There are positive changes over time (across all cohorts) in the percentage of participants who say they choose how they spend their free time. For participants in cohort five, the percentage increased by 19.7 percentage points, from 57.9% at baseline to 77.6% at fifth review. However, there was a 5.3 percentage point decrease at latest review. Cohorts one, two, three and four also show increases over time – 4.7, 5.3, 12.5 and 16.3 percentage points between baseline and latest review, respectively.



Participants aged 15 and over

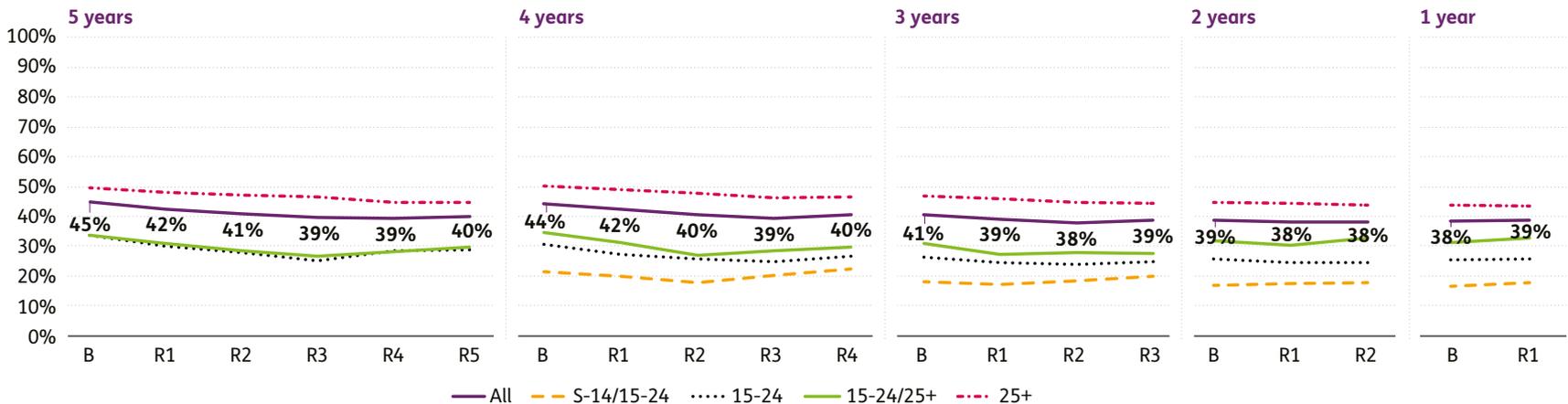
Choice and control

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who feel able to advocate (stand up) for themselves

Participants aged 15 and over are less likely to feel able to advocate (stand up) for themselves over time. Over a five year period, there was a 4.8 percentage point decrease between baseline (44.5%) and fifth review (39.8%). This declining trend is also evident for cohorts 3 and 4, while there has been no real change for cohorts 1 and 2.

There is a declining trend across all age groups, except participants in the S-14/15-24 age group where there are slight improvements at later review periods. However, this age group has the lowest percentage of participants reporting positively – 22.2% at fourth review for cohort 4. The 25+ age group had the highest percentage of participants reporting that they feel able to advocate for themselves (46.4% at fourth review for cohort 4).



Participants aged 15 and over

Relationships

Relationships with friends and staff

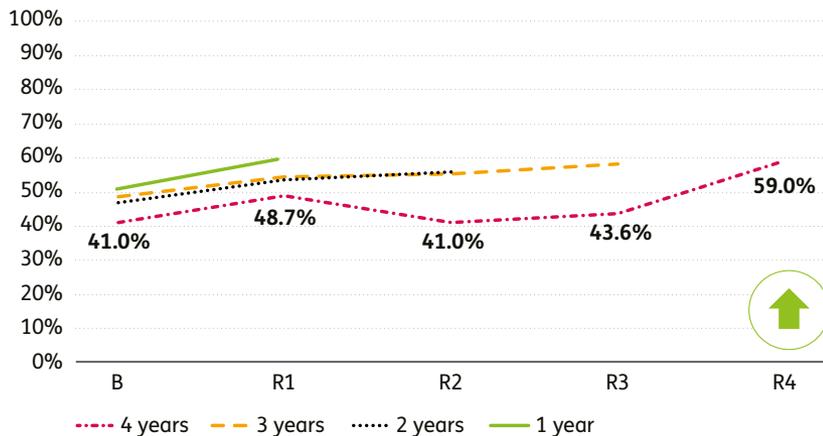
Time since first in P15to24

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Long Form survey results show improvements over time for relationships with friends and staff.

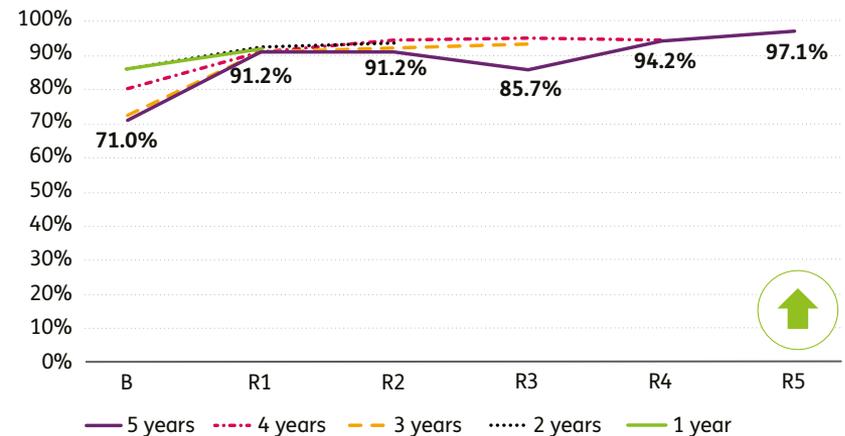
% who get to see their friends without paid staff or family present

For participants aged 15 to 24 in the C4 cohort, results suggest that participants are increasingly getting to see their friends without paid staff or family present¹ – 59.0% at fourth review compared to 41.0% at baseline, an increase of 17.9 percentage points over four years. Cohorts one to three show improvements on this indicator of 9.0 to 9.5 percentage points.



% who feel happy with their relationship with staff

A higher percentage of participants aged 15 and over are reporting feeling happy with their relationship with staff – 97.1% at fifth review compared to 71.0% at baseline. There have been increases of between 14.2 and 26.1 percentage points for participants in the Scheme for three or more years. Smaller increases are evident for those in cohorts one and two – 5.7 and 7.7 percentage points, respectively.



¹ Note that due to small numbers, this LF indicator is not available for participants in the Scheme for five years.

Participants aged 15 and over

Relationships

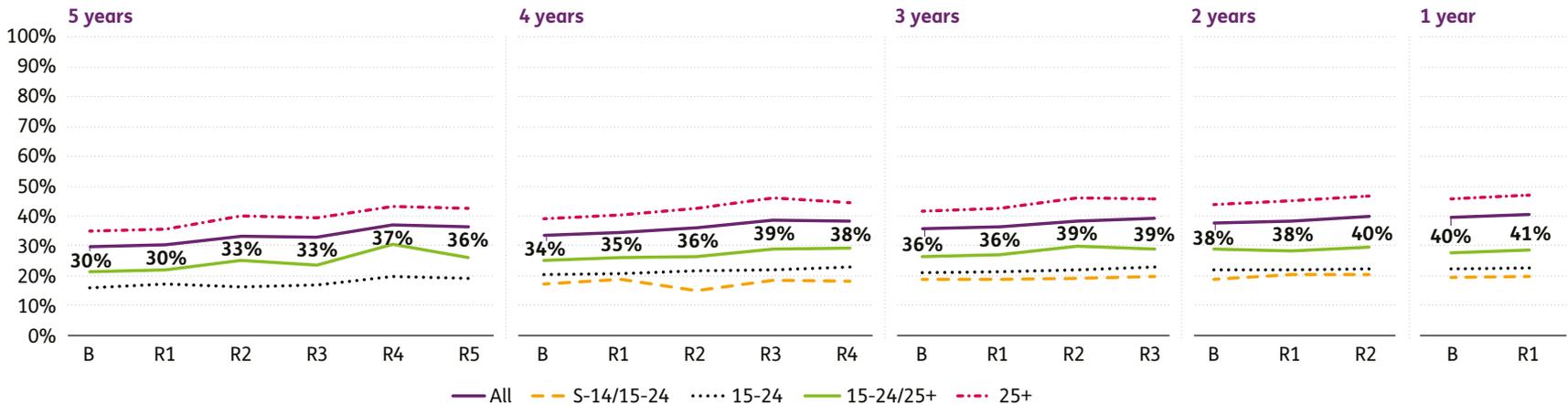
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who would like to see their family more often

Participants expressed an increasing desire to see family more often. For example, for those in cohort 5, the percentage wanting to see their family more often increased by 6.6 percentage points from 29.9% at baseline to 36.4% at fifth review.

A higher percentage of older participants (25+ age group) indicated that they would like to see their family more often, and this group showed a larger increase over time. For those in the Scheme five years, there was a 7.8 percentage point increase between baseline and fifth review (34.9% and 42.8%).

The younger age groups (S-14/15-24 and 15-24) had smaller increases over time, 1.1 and 2.6 percentage points, respectively.



Participants aged 15 and over

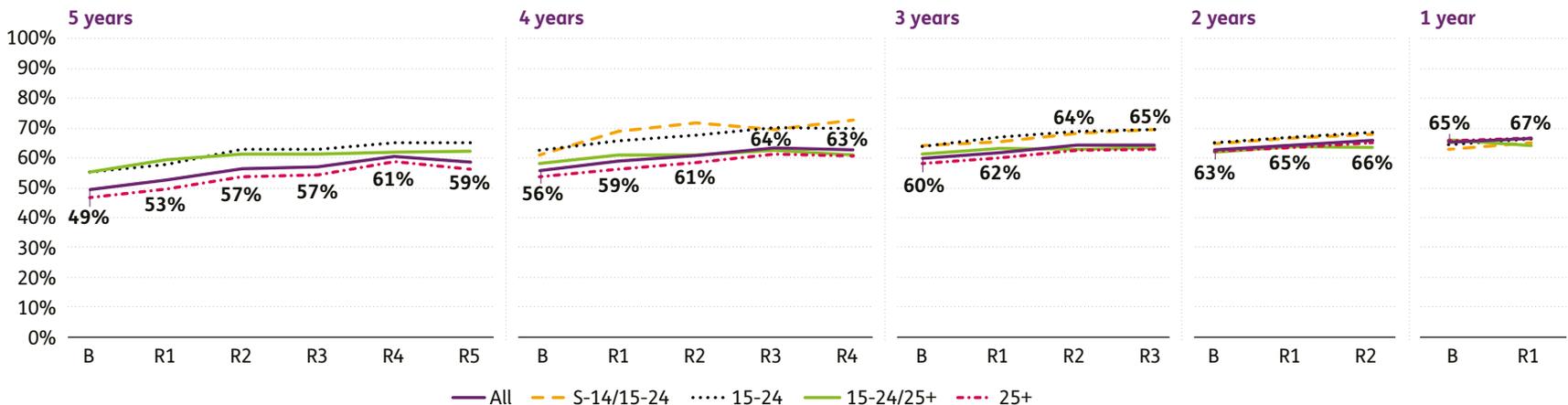
Relationships

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who would like to see their friends more often

Over time, participants aged 15 and over are increasingly wanting to see their friends more often. For example, for participants in cohort 5 there was a 9.3 percentage point increase in the percentage wanting to see their friends more often (between baseline and fifth review). However, there was a 1.9 percentage point decrease in the latest year.

The trend appears to be consistent across the age groups, although there is a higher percentage of participants in the younger age groups (i.e. S-14/15-24 and 15-24) who would like to see their friends more often compared to the 25+ group. For example, at fourth review (Cohort 4), 72.9% of participants in the S-14/15-24 age group reported wanting to see their friends more often, compared to 60.9% of participants in the 25+ age group.



Participants aged 15 and over

Home

Home-related decisions

Time since first in P15to24

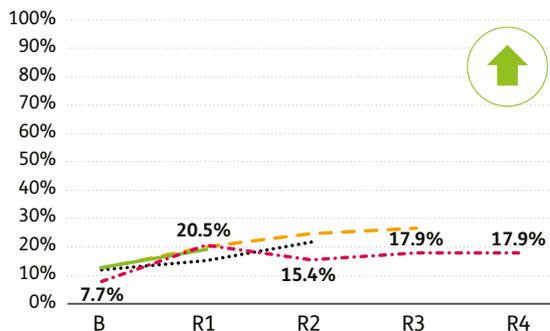
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Participants aged 15 to 24 are showing longitudinal improvements in their home related decisions and choices. While there is still a very low percentage of participants reporting that they make decisions in planning for a home of their own¹ (17.9% at fourth review), this is a 10.3 percentage point increase from baseline (7.7%). For the C3 cohort, there has been a 14.3 percentage point increase from baseline, to 26.7% at third review.

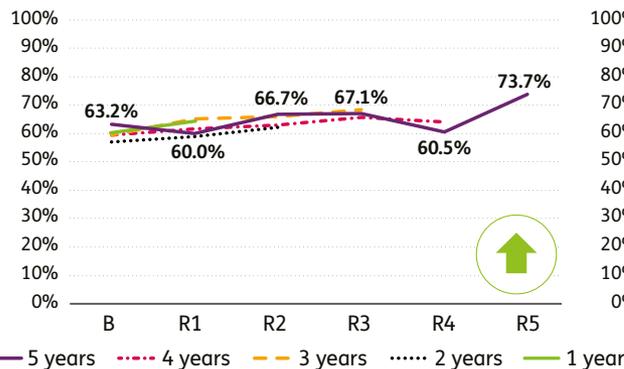
Similarly, participants aged 15 and over are increasingly reporting choice in where and with whom they live. Over five years:

- 73.7% of participants say they chose where they lived at fifth review, compared to 63.2% at baseline (a 10.5 percentage point increase), including a large increase at latest review.
- 85.5% of participants say they chose whom they lived with (fifth review), compared to 71.1% at baseline (a 14.5 percentage point increase), including a large increase at latest review.
- Increases across other cohorts were between 4.0 and 9.4 percentage points.

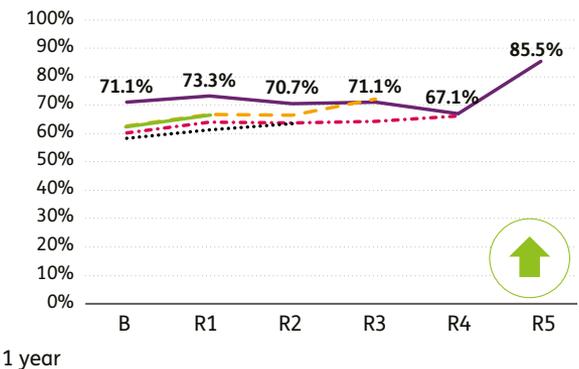
% who make decisions in planning for a home of their own with or without the help of others



% who say they chose where they lived



% who say they chose whom they lived with



¹ Note that due to small numbers, this LF indicator is not available for participants in the Scheme for five years.

Participants aged 15 and over

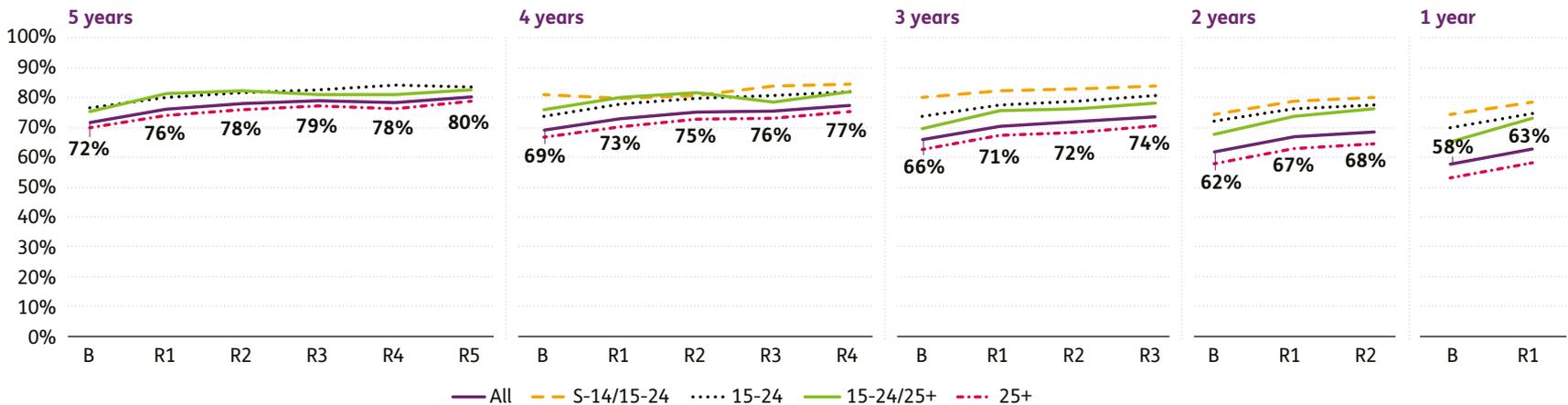
Social, community and civic participation

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who spend their free time doing activities that interest them

For all cohorts, improvements over time have been observed for the percentage who spend their free time doing activities that interest them – for example, 8.4 percentage points between baseline (71.9%) and fifth review (80.3%) for cohort 5.

While trends are fairly consistent across age groups, a higher percentage of the younger age group that has transitioned up into the 15–24 group (S–14/15–24) report spending their free time doing activities that interest them. For example, 84.7% of the S–14/15–24 spend their free time doing activities that interest them at fourth review (Cohort 4), compared to 75.4% of participants in the 25+ age group.



Participants aged 15 and over

Social, community and civic participation

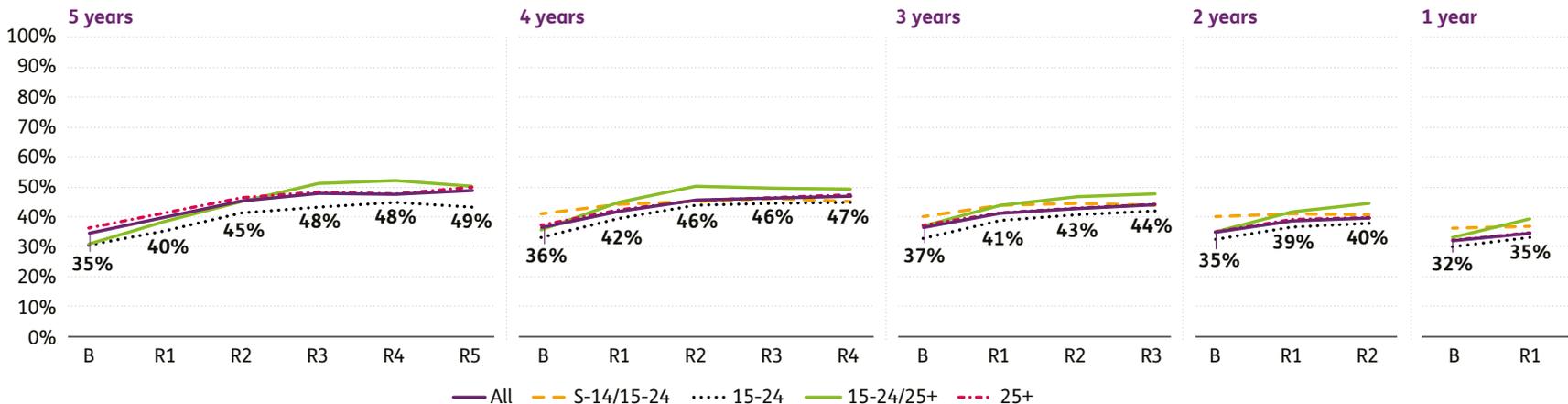
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Actively involved in a community activity in the last 12 months

The percentage of participants actively involved in a community, cultural or religious group in the last 12 months has improved across all five cohorts.

For cohort 5, there has been an increase of 14.3 percentage points between baseline (34.6%) and fifth review (48.9%), including a 1.2 percentage point increase in the latest year. For Cohort 4, the percentage increased by 10.6 percentage points, from 36.5% at baseline to 47.0% at fourth review.

Cohorts 1, 2 and 3 have experienced increases of 2.5, 4.9 and 7.4 percentage points, respectively. There is a fairly consistent trend across all age groups.



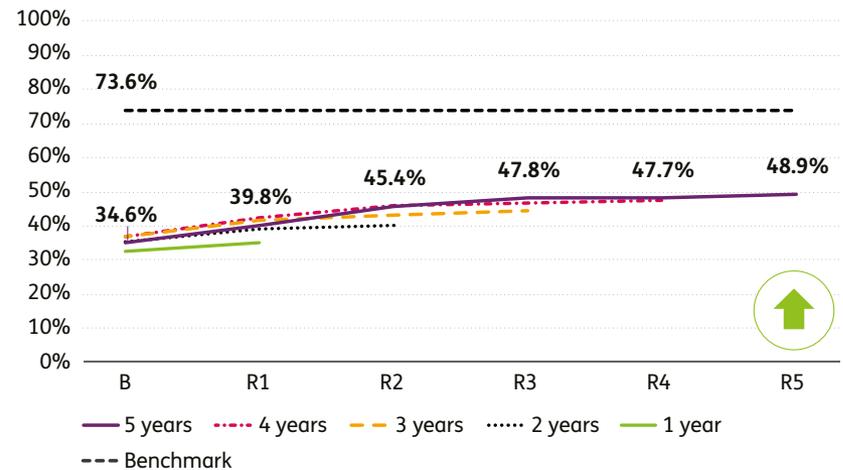
Participants aged 15 and over

Social, community and civic participation

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Actively involved in a community activity in the last 12 months (benchmark)

Compared to the general Australian population¹, a substantially lower percentage of NDIS participants aged 15 and over have been actively involved in a community, cultural or religious group in the last 12 months (across all cohorts). After 5 years, 48.9% of participants report active involvement in a community activity in the last 12 months, which is a 14.3 percentage point increase; however, still well below the population benchmark of 73.6%.



¹ Population benchmark figures are from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), General Social Survey (GSS) 2020, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution. GSS item "Has been involved in groups in the last 12 months" including social groups, community support groups, and civic and political groups.

Participants aged 15 and over

Social, community and civic participation

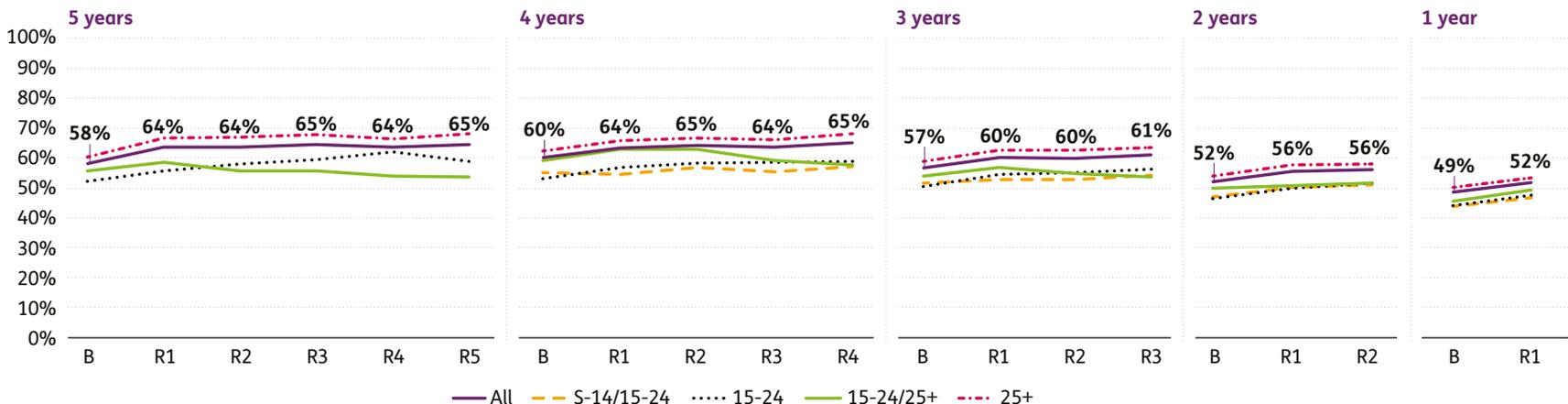
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Do you know people in your community?

The percentage of participants who know people in their community has increased between baseline and latest review for all cohorts. An increase of 6.3 percentage points is evident in cohort 5, while increases of 3.2, 4.1, 4.5 and 5.0 percentage points can be seen for cohorts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Some age group differences are:

- There are smaller increases for the S-14/15-24 age group within cohorts 3 and 4 – 2.6 and 1.8 percentage points
- Participants in the 15-24/25+ age group show a slight declining trend for cohorts 3, 4 and 5 – 0.4, 1.2 and 1.8 percentage points, respectively
- A higher percentage of participants in the 25+ age group know people in their community – 68.2% at fifth review, compared to 60.3% at baseline. By comparison, 59.1% of the 15-24 age group and 53.9% of the 15-24/25+ age group know people in their community at fifth review.



Participants aged 15 and over

Social, community and civic participation

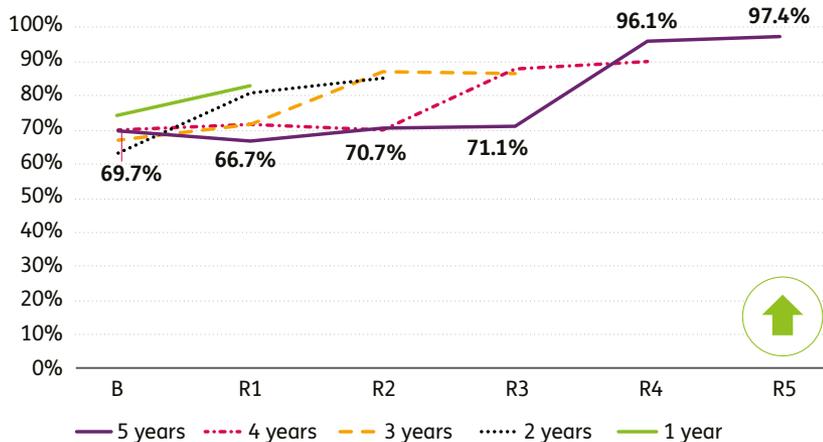
Leisure activities and trying new things

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

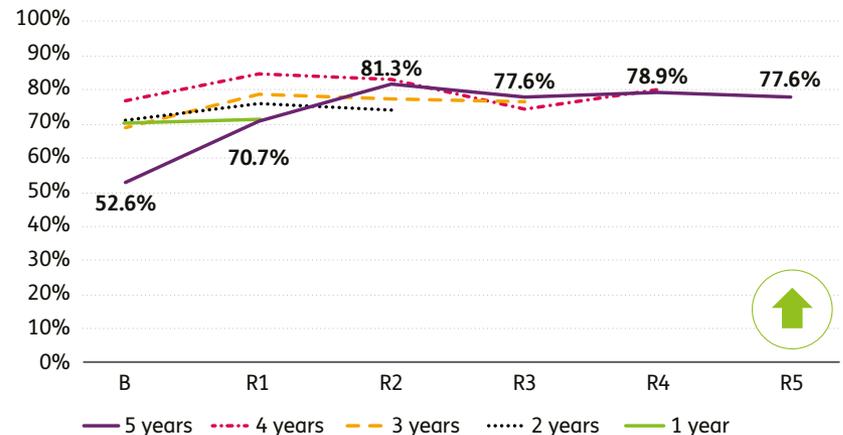
Long form survey results for participants aged 15 and over show positive changes in key social and community participation indicators. Over five years, participants have reported a 27.6 percentage point increase in their leisure activity participation – 97.4% at fifth review compared to 69.7% at baseline. This includes a very large increase at fourth review (25 percentage points). Similar improvements are seen across all other cohorts.

A higher percentage of participants are indicating that they have opportunities to try new things and have new experiences. While there is a large increase for cohort five (52.6% to 77.6%), this is mainly due to large increases in the first couple of years (28.2 percentage points) and a stabilisation between second and fifth review. For other cohorts, the general increasing trend appears to be flatter, with improvements across cohorts one to four of 0.9, 2.9, 7.6 and 3.4 percentage points, respectively.

% who have taken part in leisure activities in the past 12 months



% who have opportunity to try new things and have new experiences



Participants aged 15 and over

Social, community and civic participation

Safety and having a say (benchmarks)

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

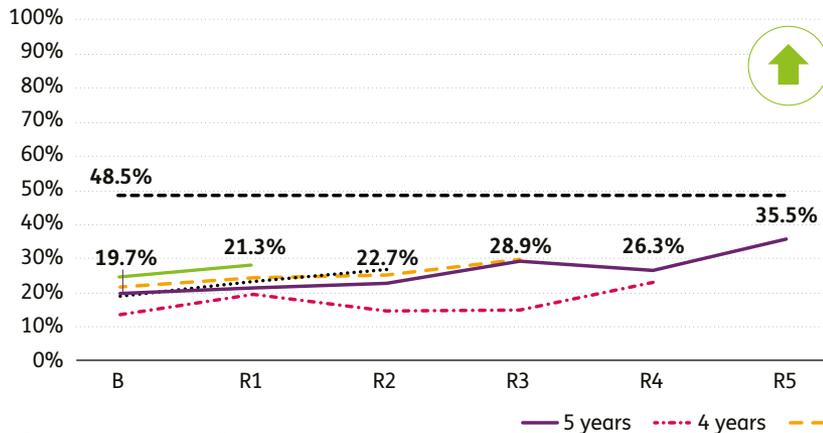
Key long form survey indicators relating to feeling safe walking alone in their local area after dark, and having a say within the general community on issues that are important to them, are improving over time within the Scheme for participants aged 15 and over.

Over five years, there was a 15.8 percentage point increase in feelings of safety, with 35.5% responding positively at fifth review compared to 19.7% at baseline, which includes a 9.2 percentage point increase in the latest year. While improving, performance against this indicator is below that of the general Australian population¹ (48.5%).

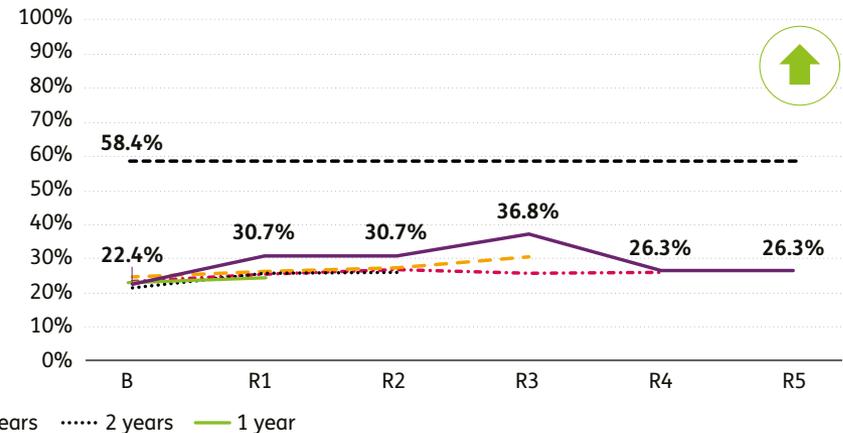
Compared to the general Australian population¹ (58.4%), a substantially lower percentage of NDIS participants aged 15 and over feel that they are able to have a say within the general community on matters that are important to them. Over five years, the percentage reporting positively has increased by 3.9 percentage points to 26.3%, although there is some volatility for intermediate time points due to small numbers.

Cohorts one to four showed increases of 1.3, 4.4, 5.7 and 2.7 percentage points, respectively.

Feel safe walking alone in their local area after dark



Have a say within the general community



¹ Population benchmark figures are from:

- Feel safe walking alone in their local area after dark: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Personal Safety 2016, standardised for NDIS participant gender distribution.
- Have a say within the general community: ABS, General Social Survey (GSS) 2020, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.

Participants aged 15 and over

Social, community and civic participation

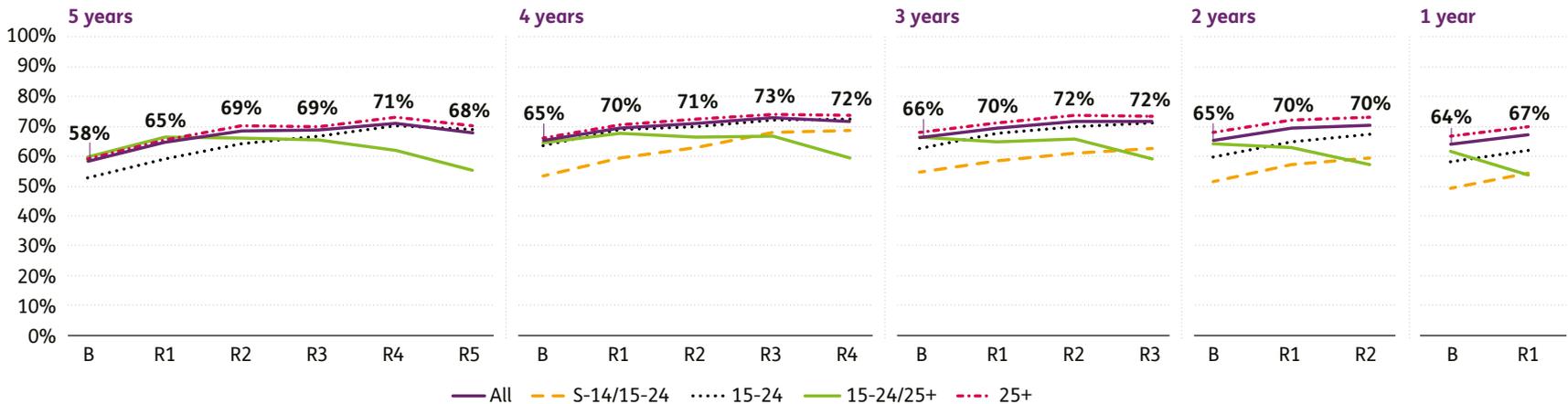
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who said there was something they wanted to do in the last 12 months, but could not

Overall, there has been an increase in the percentage of participants who say there was something they wanted to do in the past 12 months but could not (across all cohorts). For participants in Cohort 5, there was a 9.7 percentage point increase from 58.3% at baseline to 68.0% at fifth review.

While still increasing over time, a lower percentage of participants in the S-14/15-24 age group reported that there was something they wanted to do in the last 12 but could not (at earlier review periods) – e.g. 63.1% at review 2 (cohort 4), compared with 72.6% for the 25+ age group.

Unlike the other age groups, the 15-24/25+ age group shows a decreasing (improving) trend for this indicator across all cohorts of between 4.6 and 7.8 percentage points. For cohorts 4 and 5, there was an increase at first review followed by a decline for subsequent reviews. The largest change for this age group was at latest review.



Participants aged 15 and over

Employment¹

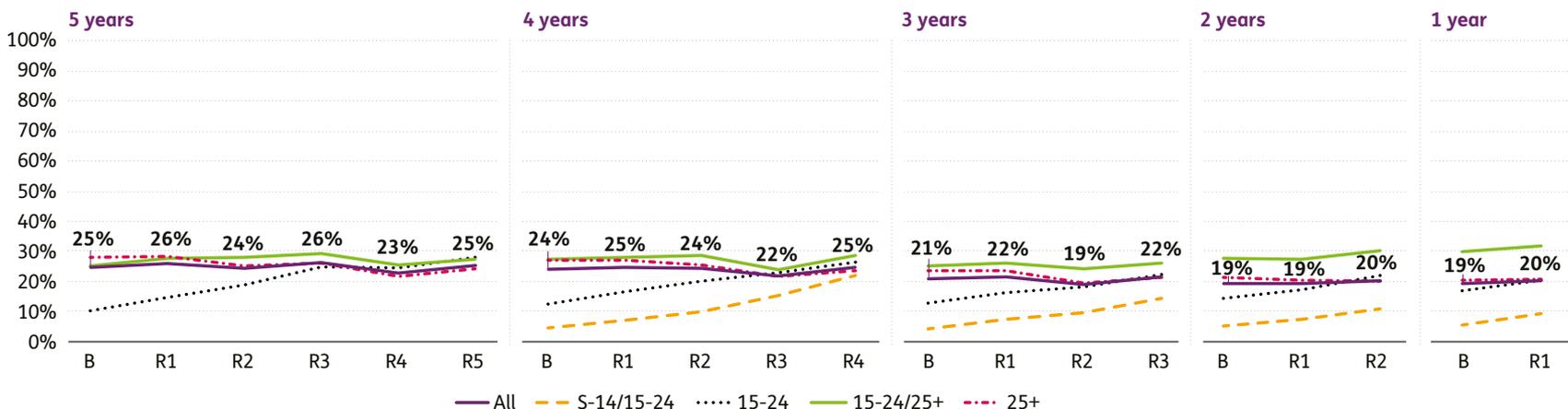
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who are currently working in a paid job

Overall there has been no change in the percentage of participants aged 15 and over who are in a paid job, remaining fairly stable at around 25% for cohorts 4 and 5 (purple line). However, this result is primarily driven by the 25 and over age groups (15–24/25+ and 25+).

The 15–24 and S–14/15–24 age groups are showing positive changes over time (notwithstanding a much lower baseline percentage) with large increases since baseline for most cohorts. For example, for the 15–24 age group, there was a 17.9 percentage point increase between baseline (10.2%) and fifth review (28.2%).

However, the 25+ age group showed a consistent decline in the percentage of participants working in a paid job of between 1.3 and 3.9 percentage points for cohorts 2 to 5.



¹ For more information on employment outcomes, see <https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/employment-outcomes-participants-their-families-and-carers>

Participants aged 15 and over

Employment¹

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Of those in a paid job, % working 15 hours or more per week

The percentage working 15 or more hours per week (for those with a paid job) shows an increasing trend. For example, for cohort 5, the percentage increased from 64.8% at baseline to 69.5% at fifth review.

While most age groups improved on this indicator over time, the 15–24 age group had the largest change, with increases of between 17.1 and 30.1 percentage points depending on cohort, likely reflecting the transition from school to work. For participants in the Scheme five years, there was an increase from 24.6% at baseline to 54.6% at fifth review.

The S–14/15–24 also had large increases for cohorts 1 and 2 – 19.5 and 29.9 percentage points, respectively. However, the overall percentage of participants in this age group working 15 hours or more per week was low (34.5% at third review, C3). Many of these participants will still be at school.

The 25+ age group reports the highest percentages of participants working 15 hours or more per week and these remain fairly stable over time. For those in the Scheme five years, the percentage working 15 hours or more per week at fifth review was 72.9%, compared to 72.3% at baseline.



¹ For more information on employment outcomes, see <https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/employment-outcomes-participants-their-families-and-carers>

Participants aged 15 and over

Employment¹

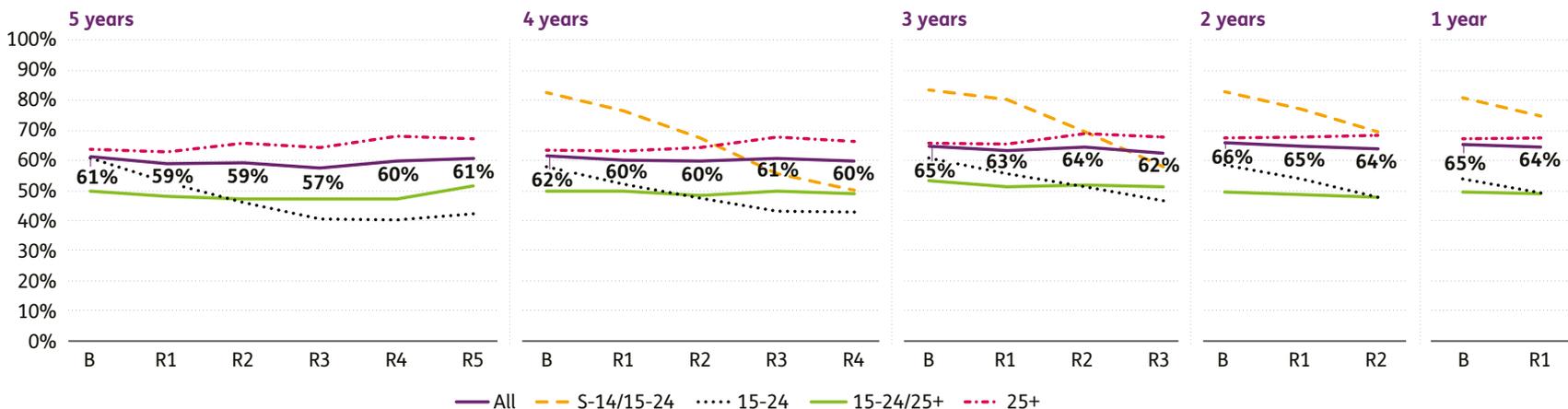
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who are not working and not looking for work

There is a slight decrease in the percentage of participants aged 15 and over who are not working and not looking for work – for cohorts 1 through 4 (purple line).

In the younger age groups – i.e. S-14/15-24 and 15-24, there is a declining (positive) trend in the percentage of participants aged 15 to 24 who are not working and not looking for work. For participants in the 15-24 age group and in the Scheme for five years, there has been a decrease of 18.5 percentage points between baseline (60.8%) and fifth review (42.3%). This is consistent for other cohorts. Larger improvements can be seen for the S-14/15-24, particularly for cohorts 3 and 4, with decreases of 25.5 and 32.3 percentage points, respectively. These trends likely reflect the transition from school to work.

However, there is a small increasing (negative) trend in the 25+ age group (between 1.1 and 3.6 percentage points), whereby a higher percentage of participants report not working and not looking for work between baseline and latest review. Older participants in this group may be retiring from the workforce.



¹ For more information on employment outcomes, see <https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/employment-outcomes-participants-their-families-and-carers>

Participants aged 15 and over

Employment

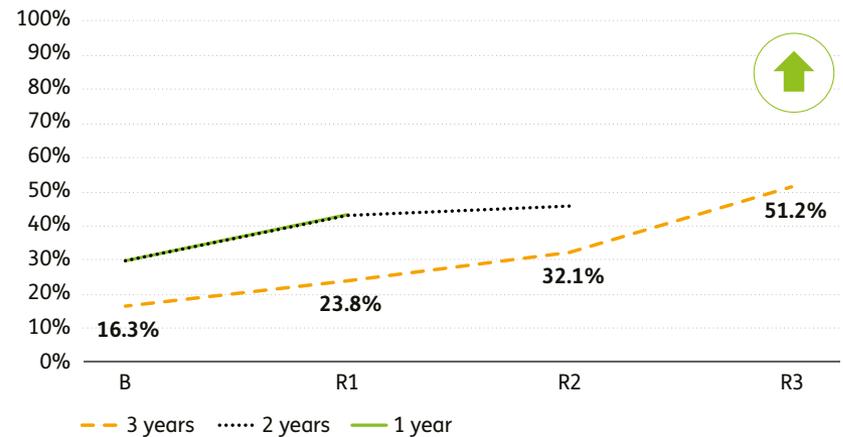
Assistance to get a job¹

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

For those who are currently not in a paid job, but would like one, % who have been assisted to get a job

Positive employment outcomes can be seen from long form survey results over three years.

For those participants who are currently not in a paid job, but indicate that they would like one, there is an increasing trend in the percentage who have been assisted to get a job – increases of 13.5, 16.2, and 34.9 percentage points for cohorts one, two and three, respectively. At third review, 51.2% were being assisted, compared to 16.3% at baseline (Cohort 3).



¹ Cohort 5 (5 years) and Cohort 4 (4 years) have been omitted due to small numbers.

Participants aged 15 and over

Employment (benchmarks)¹



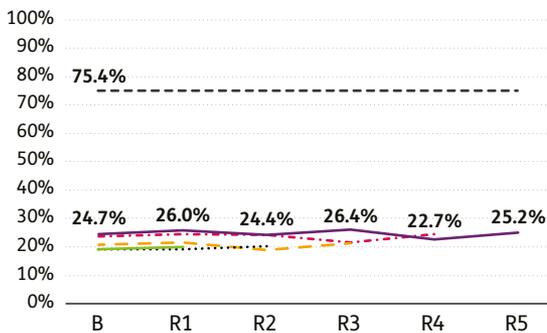
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Participants' employment outcomes are generally poorer than for the Australian population. There has been no real change in the percentage of participants working in a paid job between baseline and latest review. For participants in cohort 5, this has remained at around 25% over the five year period, which is well below the benchmark employment rate for the general Australian population (75.4%).¹ However, as seen previously, participant trends differ by age group, with younger participants showing improved employment outcomes.

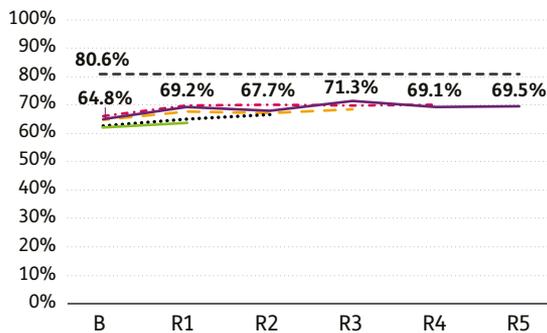
Likewise, a lower percentage of participants aged 15 and over work 15 hours or more per week, compared with the general population (80.6%).¹ However, there is a slight increasing trend on this indicator.

About 60% of NDIS participants aged 15 and over are neither working nor looking for work, compared to 21.7% of the overall Australian population¹.

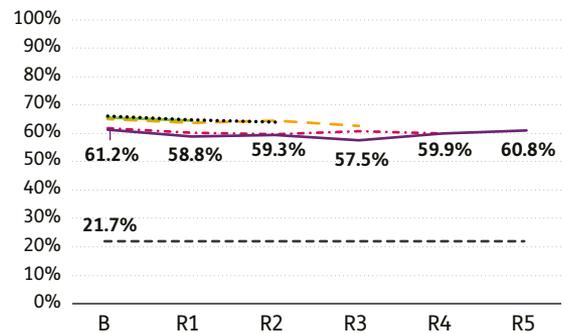
Working in a paid job



Working 15 or more hours per week



Not working and not looking for work



— 5 years ···· 4 years - - - 3 years ···· 2 years — 1 year

¹ Population benchmark figures are from:

- Working in a paid job: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Labour Force Status June 2022, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.
- Working 15 hours or more per week: ABS, TableBuilder (Employment, Income and Education) 2016, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.
- Not working and not looking for work: ABS, Labour Force Status June 2022, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.

Participants aged 15 and over

Health and wellbeing¹

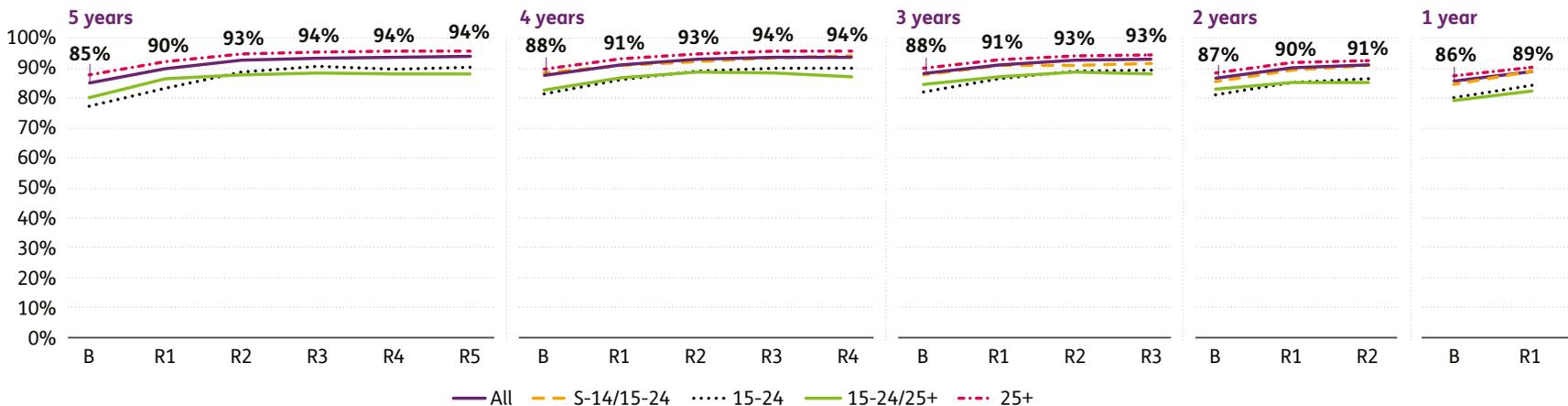
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who have a doctor they see on a regular basis

Across all cohorts, an increasing percentage of participants say they have a regular doctor:

- 8.8 percentage point increase for Cohort 5 from 85.1% at baseline to 93.9% at fifth review.
- 6.2 percentage point increase for Cohort 4 from 87.6% (baseline) to 93.8% (fourth review).
- 5.0 percentage point increase for Cohort 3 from 88.2% (baseline) to 93.2% (third review).
- 4.3 percentage point increase for Cohort 2 from 86.7% (baseline) to 91.1% (second review).
- 3.3 percentage point increase for Cohort 1 from 85.8% (baseline) to 89.0% (first review).

Overall, most age groups are quite consistent and follow a similar trend.



¹ For more information on health and wellbeing outcomes see: <https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/health-and-wellbeing-ndis-participants-and-their-families-and-carers>

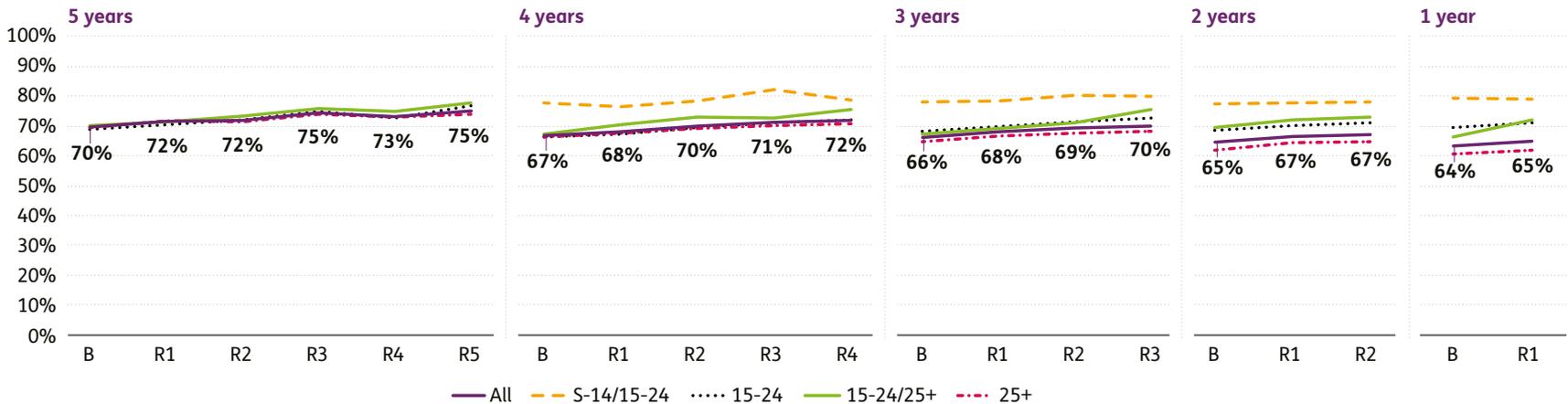
Participants aged 15 and over Health and wellbeing¹

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who did not have any difficulties accessing health services

Seventy-five percent of participants in cohort 5 reported that they did not have any difficulties accessing services after five years in the Scheme – a 5.4 percentage point increase from baseline (69.8%). This trend is consistent across cohorts, with a smaller change for cohorts 1 and 2.

When age group is considered, a higher percentage of participants in the S-14/15-24 age group report having no difficulties with accessing services across all cohorts (except C5), compared to other age groups. This age group has remained fairly stable over time at around 78% to 80%.



¹ For more information on health and wellbeing outcomes see: <https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/health-and-wellbeing-ndis-participants-and-their-families-and-carers>

Participants aged 15 and over Health and wellbeing¹

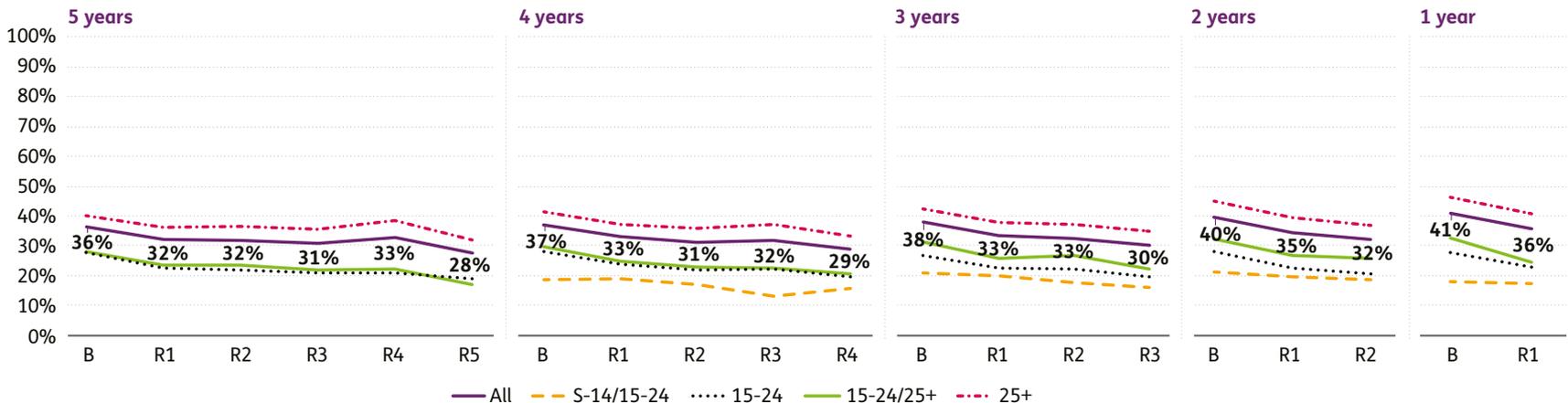
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who have been to hospital in the last 12 months

Longitudinal data for hospitalisations of participants aged 15 years and over in the last 12 months for Cohort 5 shows an 8.6 percentage point decrease from 36.4% at baseline to 27.8% at fifth review. This is similar across other cohorts.

The older participant age group (25+) has a higher percentage (across the board) of respondents who have been to hospital in the last 12 months – for example 32.1% of participants at fifth review (5 year cohort) in the 25+ age group reported going to hospital, compared with 19.1% of the 15–24 age group. Nonetheless, there is still a declining trend for this age group.

The S–14/15–24 age group had the lowest percentage of participants who have been to hospital in the last 12 months – 15.9% at fourth review (4 year cohort), compared to 19.8% to 33.3% for the other age groups.



¹ For more information on health and wellbeing outcomes see: <https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/health-and-wellbeing-ndis-participants-and-their-families-and-carers>

Participants aged 15 and over Health and wellbeing¹

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

% who rate their health as excellent, very good or good

The percentage of participants rating their health as excellent, very good, or good has declined slightly over time with a 6.2 percentage point drop between baseline (57.9%) and fifth review (51.6%), for those in cohort 5. However, for this cohort, there has been an increase in the latest year of 3.6 percentage points.

The 25+ age group follows the same trend but has a much lower percentage of participants who rate their health as good or better – e.g. 44.9% at fifth review for cohort 5, compared with 65%–68% for the younger age groups.

Whilst the younger age groups typically report higher percentages of participants who rate their health as good or better, they still experience a declining trend. Earlier cohorts and review periods are generally associated with smaller decreases and in particular, cohort 1 for the 15–24/25+ age group shows a 6.3 percentage point increase at first review.



¹ For more information on health and wellbeing outcomes see: <https://data.ndis.gov.au/reports-and-analyses/outcomes-and-goals/health-and-wellbeing-ndis-participants-and-their-families-and-carers>

Participants aged 15 and over

Health and wellbeing¹



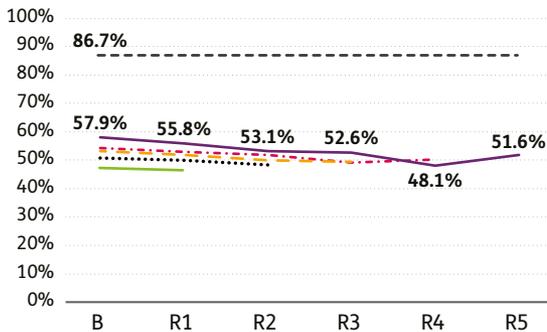
Self-rated health, regular doctor and hospital visits (benchmarks)

For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

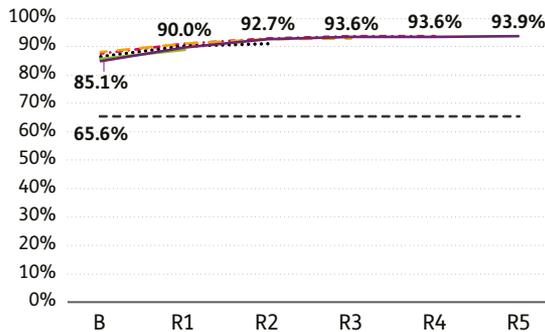
Despite improvements in some indicators, participants' health and wellbeing is generally poorer than for the Australian population, across a number of key indicators. Participant self-rated health has been deteriorating, both longitudinally (i.e. for a given cohort over time) and cross-sectionally (i.e. later entrants appear to have worse outcomes). Longitudinally, the percentage rating their health as "Excellent", "Very Good" or "Good" decreased by 6.2 percentage points over five years to 51.6%, compared to 86.7% for the Australian population overall¹. However, participants are more likely than the general population to have a regular doctor. There has been a gradual increase in the percentage with a regular doctor, from 85.1% to 93.9% over five years, which is substantially higher than the Australian population average of 65.6%.

The percentage of participants who have attended hospital in the past 12 months decreased over five years from 36.4% to 27.8%. Despite this improvement, the percentage remains higher than for the general Australian population, at 10.5%.

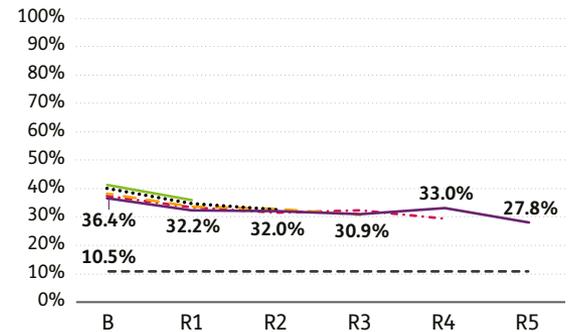
Self-rated health



Having a regular doctor



Attended hospital in the last 12 months



— 5 years - - - 4 years - - - 3 years ····· 2 years — 1 year

¹ Population benchmark figures are from:

- Self-rated health: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), General Social Survey (GSS) 2020, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.
- Hospital visits: ABS, Hospital Visits 2020–21, standardised for NDIS participant age distribution
- Regular doctor: Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) 2017, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.

Participants aged 15 and over

Health and wellbeing¹

Life satisfaction, flu vaccination and dentist visits (benchmarks)

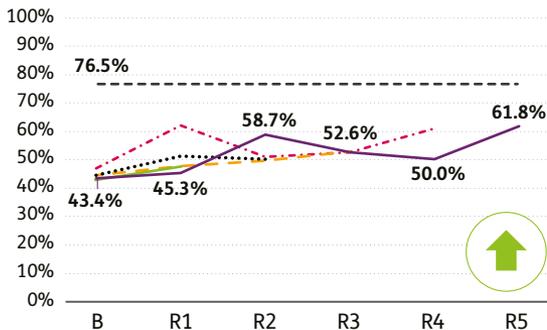
For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme

Participant life satisfaction has tended to improve, with an increase of 18.4 percentage points from baseline to fifth review (C5) in the percentage of participants feeling delighted, pleased or mostly satisfied about their life in general, now and in the future (despite some volatility due to small numbers). However, the percentage is still lower than the Australian population average of 76.5%.

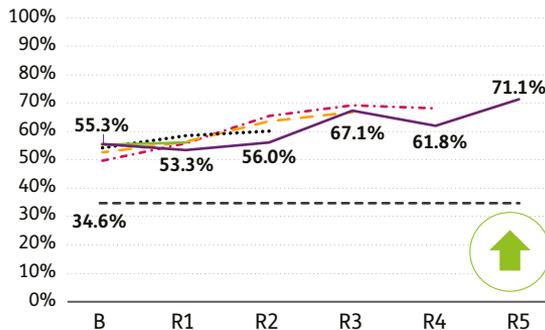
The percentage of participants receiving a flu vaccination in the past 12 months has increased for all cohorts. For those in cohort 5, the percentage increased from 55.3% at baseline to 71.1% at fifth review, which is more than double the Australian population average of 34.6%.

Dentist visits have been declining over time, with a 3.9 percentage point drop over five years to 50.0% – just above the population average of 48.1%. (At later reviews, these percentages may be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic).

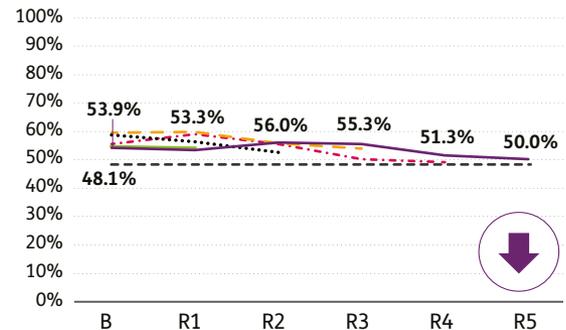
Life satisfaction



Flu vaccination



Dentist visits



— 5 years - - - 4 years - - - 3 years ····· 2 years — 1 year

¹ Population benchmark figures are from:

- Life satisfaction: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), General Social Survey (GSS) 2010, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.
- Flu vaccination: Department of Health, News-Poll Omnibus June 2014, standardised for NDIS participant age distribution.
- Dentist visits: ABS, Patient Experiences in Australia: Summary of Findings 2020–21, standardised for NDIS participant age and gender distribution.

Has the NDIS helped?

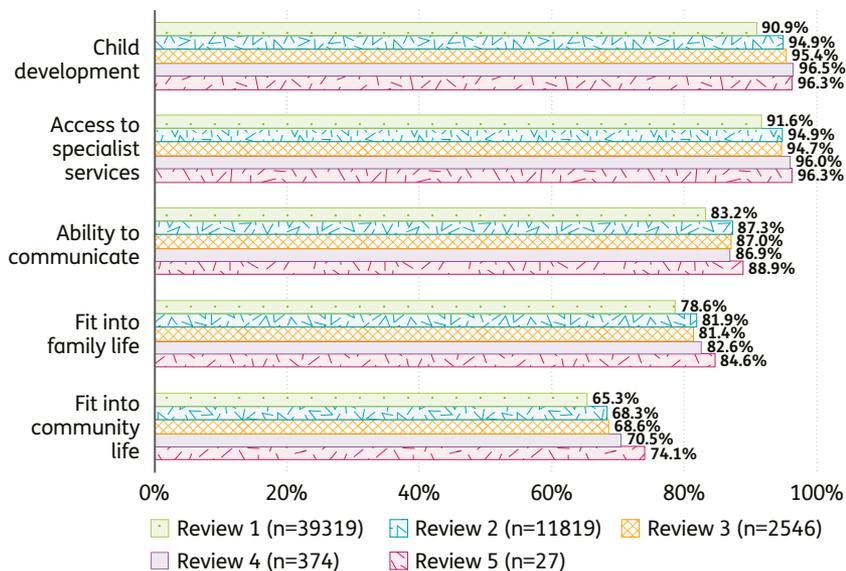
Participants from birth to before starting school

Has the NDIS helped?

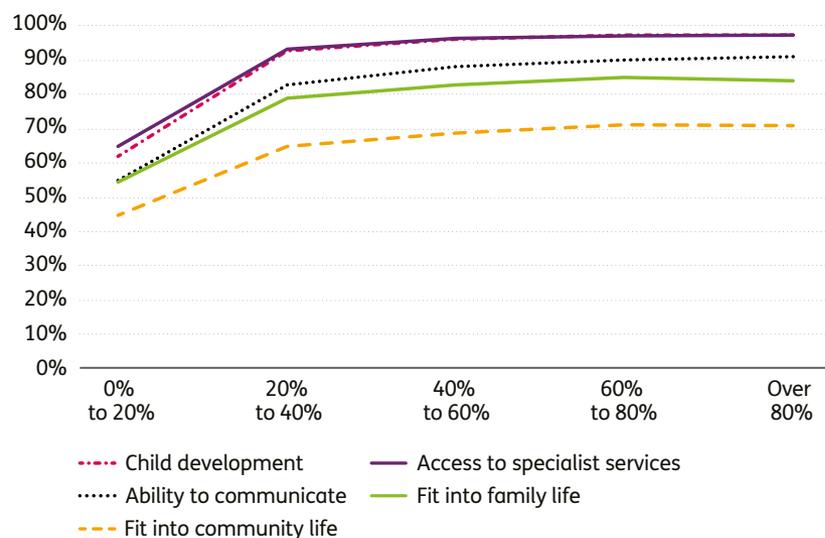


- Opinions on whether the NDIS has helped tend to be positive, particularly in relation to the child's development (90.9% after one year in the Scheme, increasing to 96.5% after four years) and access to specialist services (91.6% after one year in the Scheme, increasing to 96.3% after five years).
- Generally increasing trends with time in Scheme are observed for all domains.
- Higher plan utilisation is strongly associated with a positive response after one year in the Scheme, across all five domains. The largest improvement is between utilisation bands 0–20% and 20–40%, an increase of around 20–35%, depending on the domain.

Percentage of positive responses



By baseline plan utilisation rate, outcomes after one year

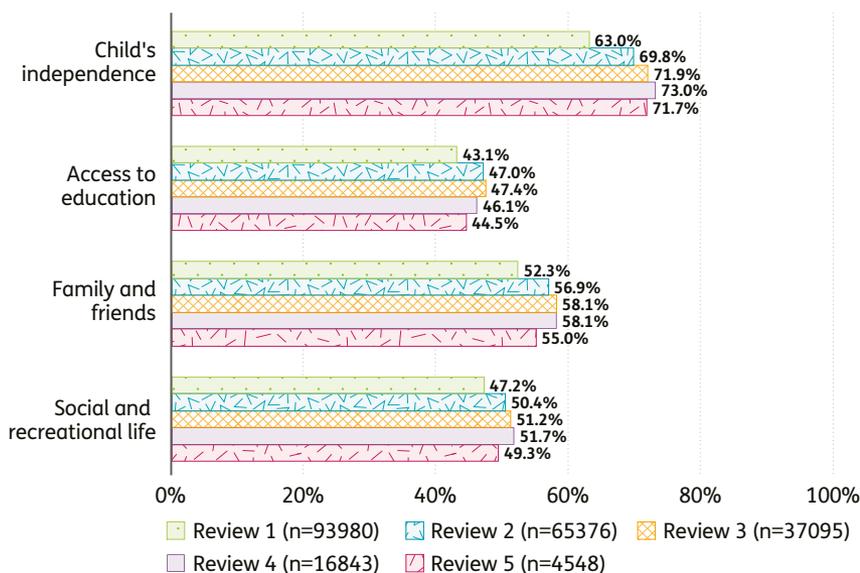


Participants from starting school to age 14

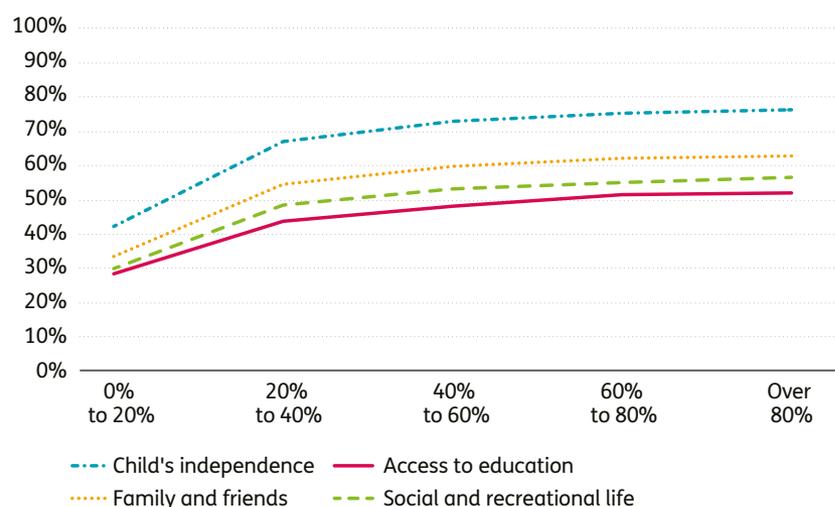
Has the NDIS helped?

- Opinions on whether the NDIS has helped vary by domain for the starting school to 14 cohort. The percentage responding positively was highest for independence (63.0% after one year in the Scheme, increasing to 71.7% after five years). The percentage responding positively was lowest for access to education (43.1% after one year in the Scheme, increasing to about 47.0% and 47.4% at reviews 2 and 3 before decreasing to 46.1% at review 4 and 44.5% at review 5). For education, however, the mainstream education system has a much bigger role in ensuring successful outcomes than the NDIS.
- Across all four domains, the percentages of positive opinion increased from review 1 to review 4, however decreased at review 5.
- Higher plan utilisation is strongly associated with a positive response after one year in the Scheme. The improvement is especially large between utilisation bands 0–20% and 20–40%.

Percentage of positive responses



By baseline plan utilisation rate, outcomes after one year



Participants aged 15 to 24

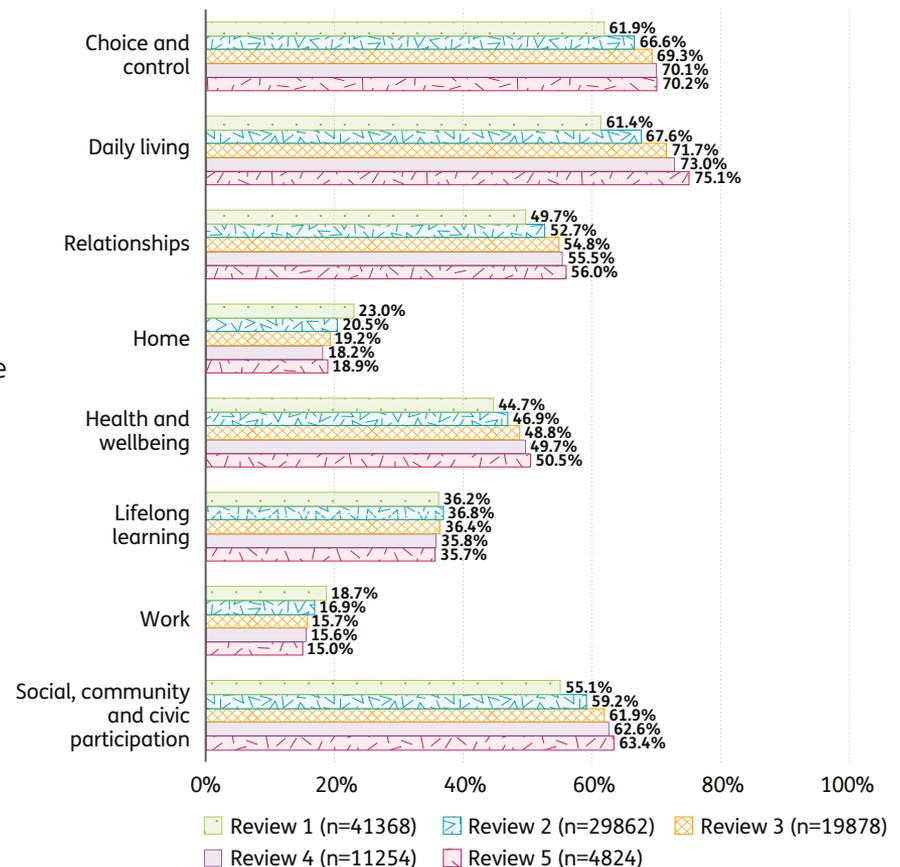
Has the NDIS helped?



Percentage of positive responses

Opinions on whether the NDIS has helped vary considerably by domain for the young adult cohort. The percentage who say the NDIS has helped is lowest for work¹ (18.7% after one year in the Scheme, decreasing to 15.0% at five years), and highest for daily living (61.4% after one year, increasing to 75.1% after five years).

The percentage who think that the NDIS has helped increased between first and fifth review across all domains except home, lifelong learning, and work. Improvements are the greatest between review 1 and review 2 for all five domains that saw improvement over five reviews, namely choice and control (4.7 percentage point improvement), daily living (+6.2 percentage points), relationships (+3.0 percentage points), health and wellbeing (+2.3 percentage points) and social, community and civic participation (+4.1 percentage points).



¹ Note, however, that this includes participants who are not actively job seeking, for example because they are still at school.

Participants aged 15 to 24

Has the NDIS helped after one year?

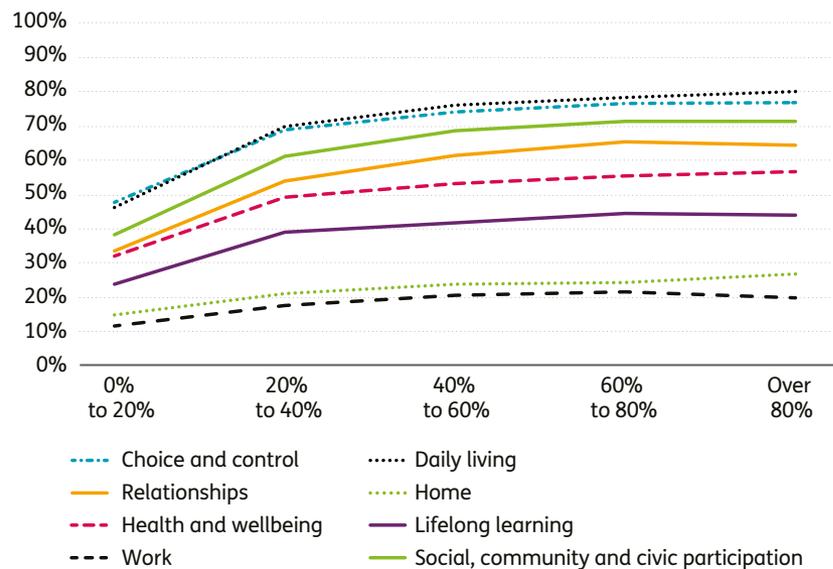


By baseline plan utilisation

Higher plan utilisation is strongly associated with a positive response across most domains, after one year in the Scheme.

In all domains except work, the percentage saying the NDIS helped increases consistently for higher baseline plan utilisation categories. In all domains, the greatest increase is seen between utilisation bands 0–20% and 20–40%.

For the work domain, the percentage saying the NDIS helped them find the right job increased between utilisation bands 0–20% and 60–80%. However, this percentage decreased slightly for those utilising over 80% of their plans at baseline.



Participants aged 25 and over

Has the NDIS helped?

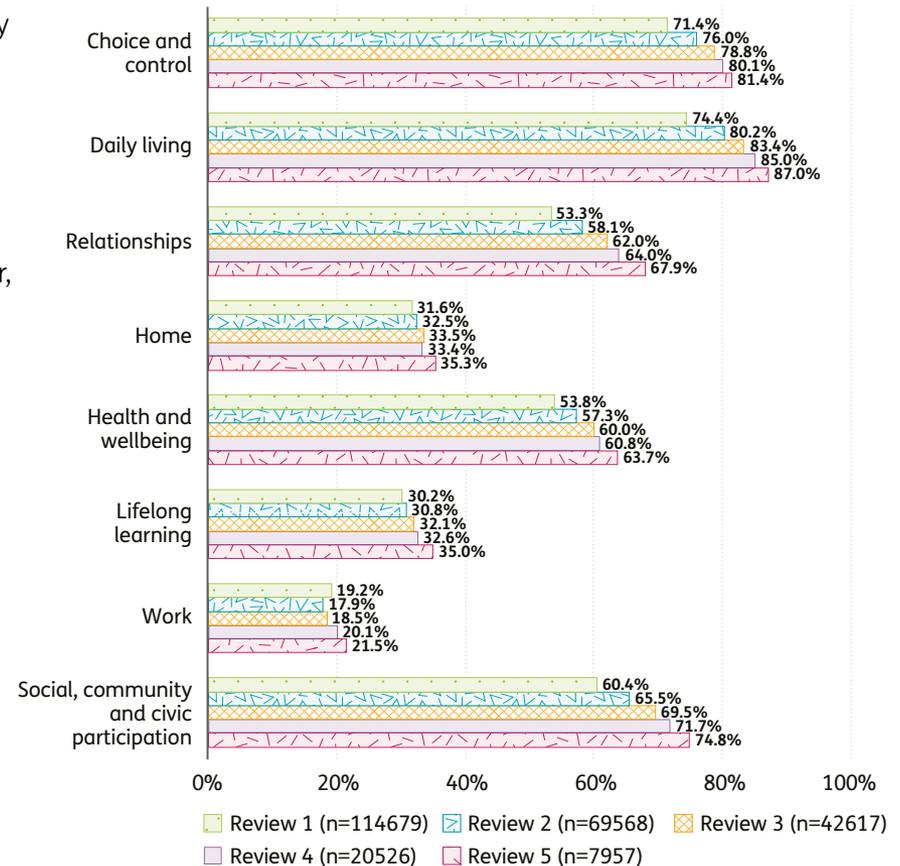


Percentage of positive responses

The percentage who think the NDIS has helped is highest for daily living (74.4% after one year in the Scheme, increasing to 80.2%, 83.4%, 85.0%, and 87.0% after two, three, four and five years in the Scheme, respectively). This is followed by choice and control, which had a 10.0 percentage point increase between first and fifth reviews (71.4% after one year in the Scheme, increasing to 81.4% after five years in the Scheme).

Percentages are lowest for lifelong learning (30.2% after one year, increasing to 35.0% after five years) and work¹ (19.2% after one year, and 21.5% after five years).

Nevertheless, all domains have shown overall positive increases between first and fifth reviews.



¹ Note, however, that this includes participants who are not actively job seeking, for example because they have retired².

Participants aged 25 and over

Has the NDIS helped after one year?

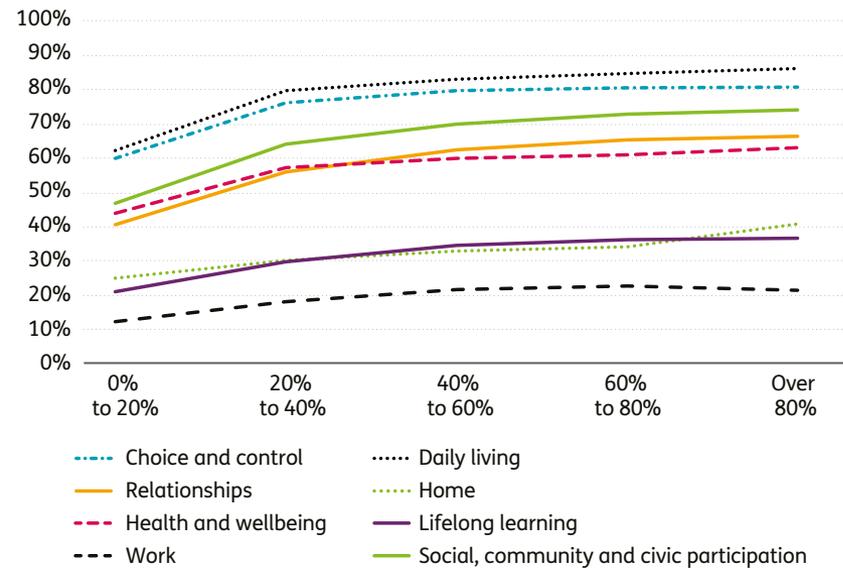
By baseline plan utilisation



Higher plan utilisation is strongly associated with a positive response across all eight domains, after one year in the Scheme.

In all domains except work, the percentage saying the NDIS helped has increased consistently for higher baseline plan utilisation categories. Across all domains except home, the increase is the greatest between utilisation bands 0–20% and 20–40%. The percentage saying the NDIS helped them find the right home increased by 6.6 percentage points between utilisation bands 60–80% and 80%+.

In the work domain, there is a slight decrease by 1.1 percentage point in the percentage saying the NDIS helped between utilisation bands 60–80% and 80%+.



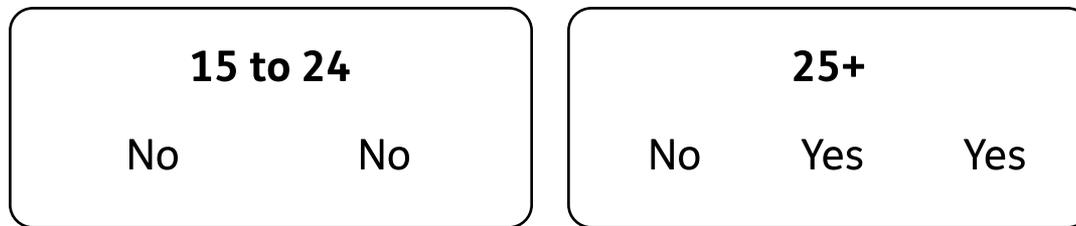
Appendix

Age group transitions

Moving up age groups, questions appearing in both survey forms

If a participant moves up to an older age group, answers to the same question continue to be tracked across the different survey forms.

For example, the question “Are you currently working in a paid job?” is asked in two survey forms: age 15 to 24 and age 25+. Suppose a participant answered twice in the 15 to 24 form and three times in the 25+ form:



Previous annual reports only tracked the participant’s answers in the first form (answers in the second form were not analysed, since the participant did not have a baseline in the second age group).



This report tracks the participant’s answers to the same question across both forms. Analysis is by ‘time in Scheme’.

Age group transitions

Moving up age groups, questions only appearing in older age group

If a participant moves up to an older age group, answers to **questions that are only asked in the older age group** start to be tracked in the new survey form.

For example, the question “Do you make more decisions in your life than you did two years ago?” is only asked in the age 15 to 24 survey form. Suppose a participant responded to a survey twice in the starting school to 14 form and three times in the 15 to 24 form:



Previously, the participant’s answers to this question were not analysed (since the question is not asked in the first age group, and the participant did not have a baseline in the second age group)



This report tracks the participant’s answers to the question from when they first answer the second form. This is done by “resetting” the baseline at this point, for the purposes of this question. Effectively, this means that the analysis is by “time in age group” rather than “time in Scheme”.

The rationale for this approach is that the question was not relevant for participants in the younger age group, and so the Scheme was not focussed on improving this particular outcome until they moved to the older age group.

Age group transitions

Summary by question type

The table below summarises the types of questions and how they are treated in the analysis.

Example question	P0toSS*	PSto14*	P15to24*	P25plus*	Number of age groups	Type of question	Age group transitioning up**	Treatment in the analysis
My child is able to tell me what he/she wants	1	0	0	0	1	Non-overlapping	-	Single group, by time in Scheme
My child can make friends with people outside the family	1	1	0	0	2	Overlapping	-	Combined group, by time in Scheme
My child is becoming more independent	0	1	0	0	1	Non-overlapping	P0toSS	Analyse by time since first in PSto14
At school, are you/were you actively included in the following co-curricular activities?	0	1	1	0	2	Overlapping	P0toSS	For P0toSS, analyse by time since first in PSto14, otherwise by time in Scheme
Do you make more decisions in your life than you did 2 years ago?	0	0	1	0	1	Non-overlapping	PSto14	Analyse by time since first in P15to24
Are you currently working in a paid job?	0	0	1	1	2	Overlapping	PSto14	For PSto14, analyse by time since first in P15to24, otherwise by time in Scheme
Living/housing arrangements, household income, who responded	1	1	1	1	4	Overlapping	-	Combined group, by time in Scheme

* P0toSS=participants aged from 0 to before starting school; PSto14=participants aged from starting school to 14; P15to24=participants aged from 15 to 24; P25plus=participants aged 25 and over.

** Note this is the oldest group ageing up. Younger groups may eventually age up also. For example, P0toSS ages up to PSto14, then to P15to24, and finally to P25plus.

Age group transitions

Longitudinal cohorts



For each outcome indicator, longitudinal results are considered separately for five cohorts of participants. The cohorts are based on the number of years of experience that the participant has contributed to that indicator as at 30 June 2022, in line with the final column of the previous slide. Hence the same participant can belong to different cohorts for different indicators. However, for a given indicator, the cohorts are distinct (that is, a participant belongs to one cohort only).

The following table shows how cohorts C1–C5 are defined.

Cohort	Number of years of experience contributed to indicator	Possible total number of years in the Scheme
C5	5	5
C4	4	4–5
C3	3	3–5
C2	2	2–5
C1	1	1–5

For example, consider a participant who has been in the Scheme for a total of five years and who responded to the P0toSS questionnaire at baseline and review 1, then to the PSto14 questionnaire at reviews 2 to 5. For the indicator:

- “My child is able to tell me what he/she wants” (only asked in P0toSS), the participant would be in cohort C1 (i.e. one review has occurred since baseline where this indicator was asked).
- “My child can make friends with people outside the family” (asked in both P0toSS and PSto14), the participant would be in cohort C5 (i.e. five reviews for this indicator have occurred since baseline).
- “My child is becoming more independent” (only asked in PSto14), the participant would be in cohort C3 (i.e. the participant first responded to this indicator at review 2 (which becomes the reset baseline) and three reviews have occurred since this reset baseline).

Treatment of “Has the NDIS helped?” questions



The final question in each domain asks whether the participant thinks that the NDIS has helped with areas related to that domain. In reporting on these questions:

- Only responses at first and subsequent reviews are included, since the Scheme has not had an opportunity to have an impact at baseline.
- All responses from review 1 onwards contribute to the analysis, and responses are allocated to the age group and duration in Scheme applicable at the time of response. For example, a participant ageing up at review 3 would be included in the new age group from review 3.
- Hence the analysis is cross-sectional by time in Scheme, i.e. results at review t represent a snapshot of all participants' views as at t years in the Scheme. This is in contrast to the longitudinal (by time in Scheme) presentation for the outcome indicators. The rationale for this difference is that the “Has the NDIS helped” questions measure satisfaction with the Scheme, rather than outcomes of participants.



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