Annual Financial Sustainability Report 2021-22

Making sure the NDIS lasts a long time

November 2022

Easy Read version

ndis.gov.au

How to use this report

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) wrote this report. When you see the word 'we', it means the NDIA.

We wrote this report in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold

Not bold

We have written some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 26.

This Easy Read report is a summary of another report.

You can find the other report on our website.

www.ndis.gov.au

You can ask for help to read this report.
A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

What's in this report?

What is this report about?

We want to make sure the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) lasts a long time.

Each year we write a report.

It's called the Annual Financial Sustainability Report (AFSR).

The AFSR uses **data** from the past 9 years.

This is when the NDIS started.

When we talk about data, we mean:

- facts

- information

- records.

We use that data to work out how much the NDIS will cost in the future.

Who writes the AFSR?

A team of experts who work for the NDIA wrote the AFSR.

They use maths to work out risk for a business.

They look at different types of **participants**.

Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.

They also look at how much **funding** participants use.

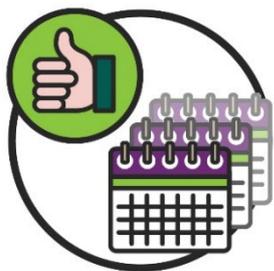Funding is the money from a participant's plan that pays for the supports and services they need.

They use this information to work out how much funding the NDIS will use in the future.

Making sure the NDIS lasts a long time

The AFSR helps us manage the funding we give to participants in their plans.

It also helps us make sure the NDIS:

- works well

- lasts a long time.

We want to support participants to:

- get the services they need

- work towards their goals.

- do things for themselves.

We want to make sure participants have enough funding to pay for their services.

We also want to make sure the NDIS helps:

- families and carers

- the community.

We want to make sure services:

- meet the needs of participants

- help participants work towards their goals.

We also want to make sure services don't cost too much money.

What information do we look at?

To make sure the NDIS lasts a long time,
we must look at how many participants take part
in the NDIS each year

We must also look at how much funding
participants receive.

And how much funding they use.
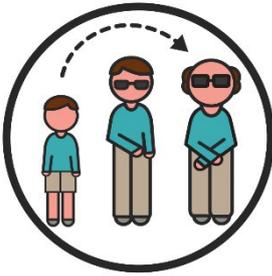
We look at how many participants:

- join the NDIS

- leave the NDIS.

We also look at data we have about participants, such as their:

- age

- disability

We look at data about how much funding participants use.

We also look at data about if participants get funding for **Supported Independent Living (SIL)**.

SIL is help with day-to-day tasks around a participant's home so they can:

- do things for themselves

- learn new skills.

Most participants who get SIL funding live with housemates who also have SIL funding.

How do we use this information?

We use the data about the NDIS to help us work out how much funding the NDIS will use in the future.

We looked at data about the NDIS over the past 9 years.

We use this data to work out how much funding the NDIS will use each year.

But there are lots of things we don't know about the future.

So we need to work out what we think will happen.

This includes:

- how many participants will join the NDIS

- how much funding we will need for new participants

- how many participants will leave the NDIS

- how much the cost of services participants get will go up

- how many participants will use SIL.

The NDIS in 2021–22

We focused on 3 areas.

Participants

More participants join the NDIS each year.

At the end of June 2022, the NDIS had 534,655 participants.

We expect the NDIS to have more than:

- 646,000 participants by June 2024

- 741,000 participants by June 2026

- 1 million participants by June 2032.

This has grown more since the AFSR we wrote last year.

We found 2 reasons why the number of participants changed so much in the last year.
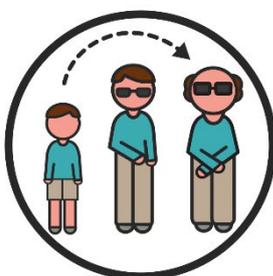
More participants joined the NDIS than we expected.

And less participants left the NDIS than we expected.

Funding

Over the last year, participants have used less funding than we expected.

When we look at how much funding participants received in the last year, we also look at:

- their age

- what disability they have.

On average children received less funding than adults.

This is because they receive more support from outside the NDIS, including:

- community supports

- support from parents or carers.

We also looked at how much funding we expect participants to use in the next year.

We expect the average funding participants use to be $59,400 in 2022-23.

This is $4,000 less than we expected in last year's AFSR.

Total amount of funding

To work out the total amount of funding for all participants, we look at:

- how many participants take part in the NDIS

- how much funding participants use.

We expect the total amount of funding for all participants to be:

- about $34 billion in 2022–23

- about $89 billion in 2031–32.

We expect NDIS funding to be $166.7 billion over the next 4 years.

How do we manage risks?

When we work out how much funding the NDIS will use in the future, we also need to work out if there are any risks.

We have some ideas about how we can manage the risks that we found.

Last year we shared some ideas in our AFSR.

And the NDIA worked on a lot of them.

This year we have 8 ideas about how to:

- manage risks

- make sure the NDIS grows.

1. We want to keep track of how funding supports participants to work towards their goals.

2. We want to learn more about how participants' needs change over time.

   This includes support for day-to-day activities.

3. We want to understand why more participants with **autism** are joining the NDIS than we expected.

Autism is a disability that affects how you:

- think

- feel

- communicate

- connect and deal with others.

4. We want to understand why people with **psychosocial disability**:

- don't apply for the NDIS

- are told they can't take part in the NDIS.

A psychosocial disability affects your mental health.

5. We want to learn more about:

- how long participants take part in the NDIS

- when participants leave the NDIS.

6. We want to use work with the community to make a home and living **policy**.

A policy is:

- a plan for how we should do things

- where rules come from.

7. We want to make sure providers are using funding the right way.

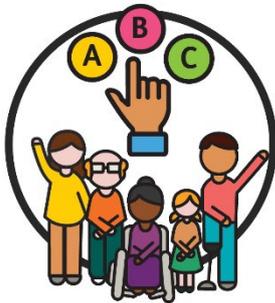This helps us protect participants.

8. We want to check the tools we use to:

- collect data

- make decisions.

We also want to make sure we make decisions in the same way for all participants.

More information

For more information about this report, please contact us.

www.ndis.gov.au

1800 800 110

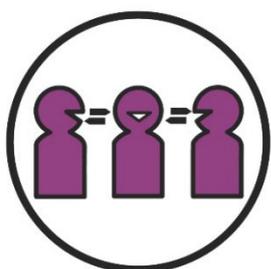Follow us on Facebook.

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www.relayservice.gov.au

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.

Data

When we talk about data, we mean:

- facts

- information

- records.

Funding

Funding is the money from a participant's plan that pays for the supports and services they need.

Participant

Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.

Policy

A policy is:

- a plan for how we should do things

- where rules come from.

Psychosocial disability

A psychosocial disability affects your mental health.

Supported Independent Living (SIL)

SIL is help with day-to-day tasks around your home so you can:

- do things for yourself

- learn new skills.

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