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NDIA External Research Requests Summary Log Between 1 July 2021 – 31 December 2024

Below is the list of approved external research requests including requests for access to tailored data approved to 31 December 2024.

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Date of request	Project title	Research objectives	Requesting organisation	Proposed research impacts
04/08/2021	The impact of government support schemes on autism spectrum disorder (ASD) prevalence in Australia	This research will model the prevalence of ASD in Australia and the trajectories of function for those with ASD receiving current government supports via the NDIS.	University of New South Wales	This research will contribute new results on the efficacy of specific interventions with potential to improve the quality of participants' plans as well as their economic and social outcomes.
10/08/2021	Provision of physiotherapy services in the NDIS	APA undertook research into physiotherapy services across Australia to identify strengths and gaps in access, workforce and services provision.	Australian Physiotherapy Association	The findings will inform APA's advocacy and policy work in the disability sector to improve outcomes for people with disability.
6/09/2021	Demographic Data – Down Syndrome	To examine the demographic profile of participants with Down Syndrome.	Down Syndrome Australia (DSA)	<p>The research findings will assist DSA to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> understand the uptake and demand of NDIS services by participants with Down Syndrome; and develop appropriate programs and supports for participants, their families and carers.
13/09/2021	Mental health services in Australia (AIHW online publication)	AIHW undertook research into the activity and characteristics of Australia's health care and social care services accessed by people with a mental illness (including NDIS participants).	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)	The research findings in the online publication will inform disability and related policy development.

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17/09/2021	Deaf Services Data Scoping Agenda	To understand how many Auslan users access the Scheme.	Deaf Services	The research findings will assist Deaf Services to design programs for the deaf community.
7/10/2021	Department of Education, Skills and Employment – Review of the National Disability Coordination Officer Program	To review the National Disability Coordination Officer (NDCO) Program and to better understand the support needs of students with disability transitioning to tertiary education and subsequent employment.	ORIMA Research (on behalf of the Department of Education, Skills and Employment)	The information from this research will be used to help inform future government support for students with disability transitioning to tertiary education and subsequent employment.
14/10/2021	Adjudicating rights for a sustainable National Disability Insurance Scheme	To examine how rights to reasonable and necessary support in the NDIS are interpreted and administered and the fairness effects.	Griffith University	The findings will contribute to the Agency’s ongoing policy work in relation to ‘Decision-making for access and planning’.
23/11/2021	Understanding the housing type and distribution of Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) in Australia in relation to community amenity	This research aims to understand the locations of SDA throughout Australia (as aggregated maps of density in postcodes, Local Government Areas across rural and metropolitan areas) and how these locations relate to proximity to amenity and infrastructure.	The University of Technology Sydney	This understanding will enable people with disability and their families to make more informed decisions about the pathways to SDA housing that work best for them, whilst also providing community housing providers and service providers with useful information to plan and strategise their services.

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10/11/2021	<p>Mental Health Service Mapping against the National Mental Health Service Planning Framework (NMHSPF) for Indigenous Population in South-East Queensland project</p> <p>(ISEQ-NMHSPF)</p>	<p>This study involved mapping current mental health service provision against the NMHSPF estimates for optimal service delivery for First Nations Peoples in South-East Queensland.</p>	<p>University of Queensland</p>	<p>The research will assist in developing a comprehensive understanding of current access and gaps in services.</p>
16/11/2021	<p>To report on the number of children who are receiving early childhood intervention supports through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) or with an approved NDIS plan before entering school</p>	<p>The Council sought NDIS data for the purpose of reporting on the number of South Australian children who are receiving early childhood intervention supports through the NDIS or with approved NDIS plans before entering school.</p>	<p>The Child Development Council of South Australia</p>	<p>The findings will be used to report on and advise the South Australian Government on the outcomes of South Australian children over time and where improvements can be made.</p>
18/01/2021	<p>Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) people with disability in regions</p>	<p>To gain insights into the numbers of people with disability from a culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background in the NSW regions.</p>	<p>Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association (MDAA)</p>	<p>This research will inform MDAA's strategic planning for the provision of advocacy support to CALD participants in NSW.</p>

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18/01/2021	Increasing physical activity among young adults with disability	This study explores the barriers and enablers to accessing community gyms in young adults with disability.	La Trobe University	The findings will provide insights for the disability sector in relation to improving accessibility.
19/01/2022	State of the Plan Management and Support Coordination Sector 2021	The purpose of this request was to gather data for the Disability Intermediaries Australia (DIA) next State of the Intermediary Sector Report. The report examines the challenges within the operating and policy environment and features the results from the DIA's Intermediary Sector Survey of service providers.	Disability Intermediaries Australia	The research will enable informed recommendations for the future of the growing intermediary sector.
14/02/2022	Giving voice to rural and remote First Nations NDIS participants who are Deaf or hard of hearing in the Northern Territory	This project aims to describe the characteristics of NDIS participants in the NT who are Deaf and/or hard of hearing and who also identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and to examine the facilitators and barriers to effective plan utilisation.	The University of Melbourne	This research explores the extent to which the NDIS is meeting the disability needs and aspirations of NDIS participants in the NT who are Deaf and/or hard of hearing and who also identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander in order to inform policy development.

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15/02/2022	Queensland Government, Department of Seniors Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DSDSATSIP) Research Partnerships – Quantitative Study: “Inequalities in NDIS service utilisation”	This project aims to describe the characteristics of Queensland NDIS participants, identify plan size, spending and utilisation trends and examine the extent to which inequities exist between particular groups of NDIS participants.	The University of Melbourne	This project seeks to identify the barriers and enablers to NDIS plan utilisation, which will inform policy responses aimed at ensuring participants in Queensland have equitable access to supports under the NDIS.
15/02/2022	Melbourne Disability Institute NDIS research programme	This project aims to examine whether there are inequities in plan size, spending and utilisation between key groups of participants in the NDIS, and the extent and potential causes of any established inequalities.	The University of Melbourne	The project seeks to examine the facilitators and barriers to the effective use of NDIS funding in order to inform policy development.
17/02/2022	NDIS participants with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) by gender and by state	To gain insight into the prevalence of MS across Australia.	MS Australia	This research will assist MS Australia and their MS member organisations to tailor support and service operations.
30/03/2022	Health and support needs for individuals from cultural minorities to engage in meaningful occupation: a scoping review	To identify gaps and solutions in health and support services of individuals with disability from CALD backgrounds to meaningfully engage in occupations.	Western Sydney University	The findings will contribute to improving NDIS policies, practices, and processes specific to CALD participants.

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25/04/2022	Understanding the population health and health service needs of people with neuropsychiatric disorders	The project aims to build a better understanding of neuropsychiatric disorders by exploring health profiles, risk factors, as well as health interventions.	The University of New South Wales Sydney	The research findings will provide information to support the improvement of services for individuals with neuropsychiatric disorders.
18/05/2022	Utilisation and costs of disability care in people with Huntington's Disease in Australia	The aim of the study is to quantify the utilisation and costs of disability care for people with Huntington's disease in Australia.	The University of Newcastle	The findings will provide insights in relation to the demographic profile of NDIS participants, disability supports used by patients and their costs.
5/05/2022	Comparing adults with intellectual disabilities to other adult participants in the NDIS – what does the data tell us.	This research will review the relative position of adults with intellectual disabilities compared to other disability groups.	La Trobe University	The findings will inform areas for action or improvement to help reduce issues specific to this group, given the relative underdevelopment of advocacy for this group and the difficulties of self-advocacy for those with more severe and profound intellectual disability.
28/08/2022	TRANSMIT: A multifaceted knowledge TRANslation Strategy iMproving funcTion in children and youth with cerebral palsy	This project will develop a mobile health aid that will help parents and carers of children living with cerebral palsy to better understand and access evidence-based supports. The TRANSMIT project is funded through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Partnerships for Better Health.	The University of Sydney	The implementation of the resources has potential to improve independence of daily living for children with cerebral palsy and longer term improvements in independent living and employment.

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25/10/2022	Fixing the NDIS: cost, effectiveness and access for psychosocial disability	This a social policy project which focuses on how the Scheme functions for people with psychosocial disability. It is funded by the Australian Research Council.	The University of Sydney	The project will explore Scheme outcomes, cost-effectiveness and participant experiences for participants with psychosocial disability. This will be used to develop an appropriate and implementable program logic that can be used to improve outcomes for people with psychosocial disability.
23/06/2022	Bridging the Digital Divide: Building Health Self-Efficacy through Communication-Accessible Online Environments	This project aims to reduce the barriers to internet-based essential health and support services for people with disability. It is funded by the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF).	The University of Queensland	This project will develop technology, training and guidelines that make the internet more accessible to people with communication disability.
16/01/2023	Growing up in Queensland	The Queensland Family and Child Commission sought NDIS data to support the 'Growing up in Queensland' project', which reports annually on the experiences of being a child or young person in Queensland.	The Queensland Family and Child Commission	The research findings in the online publication will inform disability and related policy development.
20/02/2023	Ear and hearing health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	AIHW sought NDIS data to include in the 'Ear and hearing health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people' report.	AIHW	The research findings in the online publication will inform disability and related policy development.

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16/03/2023	How are they faring? South Australia's 2023 Report Card	To report on the number of children who are receiving early childhood intervention supports through the NDIS or with an approved NDIS plan before entering school.	The Child Development Council of South Australia	The findings will be used to report on and advise the South Australian Government on the outcomes of South Australian children over time and where improvements can be made.
11/05/2023	Angelman clinic network	To understand the demographic profile of NDIS participants with Angelman Syndrome.	The Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics Australia (FAST Australia)	The research findings will assist FAST Australia to design programs aimed at improving outcomes for those diagnosed with Angelman syndrome.
24/05/2023	An Evaluation of a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Models of Care Project	This project aims to help increase Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) knowledge and diagnostic capacity across Australia. This request sought summary data on the number of participants diagnosed with FASD.	The University of Western Australia	The findings will provide insights for the disability sector in relation to FASD.
5/06/2023	DRIV-R – DRIVing My Own Mental Health Recovery	This project is funded through the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) to co-design, develop and test a mental health recovery App called DRIV-R for phone, tablet and computer.	The University of Sydney	The project will result in a free and accessible, evidence-based App that will build consumer self-efficacy by supporting them to drive their own mental health recovery.

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30/05/2023	People with disability in Australia report	AIHW sought NDIS data to include in the 'People with disability in Australia' report.	AIHW	The research findings in the online publication will inform disability and related policy development.
17/11/2023	Healthcare service experiences of young adults with stroke	The MRFF has funded Monash University to deliver a new Young Stroke Service. This project seeks to understand key stakeholder experiences, values and perspectives about existing services and the new Young Stroke Service in order to inform the optimisation and implementation.	Monash University	The research findings will help to better understand how to improve social, community and vocational participation of young adults who have had a stroke.
18/12/2023	National analysis of unmet need for psychosocial supports project	Health Policy Analysis (HPA) has been commissioned to undertake an analysis of unmet need for psychosocial supports outside the NDIS. The broader project is jointly led by the Commonwealth and state and territory governments under the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement.	HPA	The analysis will be used to inform future reforms to improve the provision of psychosocial supports outside of the NDIS, including roles and responsibilities between the Commonwealth and states and territories.