

Senate Community Affairs References Committee
Barriers to consistent, timely and best practice assessment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and support services for people with ADHD

Public Hearing – 29 June 2023
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE
National Disability Insurance Agency

Topic: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder – Comorbid Disabilities

Question reference number: IQ23-000033

Question asked by: Jordon Steele-John

Type of Question: Spoken. Hansard Page: 46

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 20 July 2023

Question:

Senator Steele-John: ... Finally—you'll probably have to take this on notice—you've indicated that the vast majority of people who are currently in the scheme with ADHD as a primary or secondary disability have more than one disability; they have a primary and a secondary disability. It would be good for us to know what those secondary disabilities in the case where the ADHD is the primary disability and vice versa. I know that sounds a bit convoluted, but I'm trying to get a bigger picture of the actual cohort that we are looking at. Mr McNaughton: I know exactly what you mean. We'll see if we can break down that data. I think you said autism and ADHD or something else and ADHD. We will see if we can get some data on that for you

Answer:

As at 31 March 2023, for the 4,676 active National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) as one of their secondary disabilities, the following table shows their recorded primary disability under the NDIS disability groupings.

Primary Disability – NDIS Groupings	Number of active NDIS participants with ADHD secondary disability
Autism	3,157
Intellectual Disability	786
Psychosocial Disability	261
Developmental Delay	205
Global Developmental Delay	54
Other	40
Acquired Brain Injury	36
Other Neurological	31
Hearing Impairment	29
Cerebral Palsy	22
Other sensory/speech	22
Other Physical	11
Down Syndrome	<11
Visual Impairment	<11
Multiple Sclerosis	<11
Spinal Cord Injury	<11
Stroke	<11
Total	4,676

As at 31 March 2023, for the 188 active NDIS participants with ADHD as their primary disability, the following table counts the most common secondary disabilities on file.

NDIS participants may have multiple secondary disabilities on file, and therefore may appear multiple times in the table, once for each of their secondary disabilities. Of the 188 NDIS participants with ADHD as their primary disability, 87 did not have any secondary disability information on file.

Secondary Disability – NDIS Disability Groupings	Number of ADHD primary disability participants with this secondary disability
Psychosocial Disability	62
Other	41
Other Sensory/Speech	16
Intellectual Disability	13
Other physical	<11
Other Neurological	<11
Autism	<11
Developmental Delay	<11
Global Developmental Delay	<11
Hearing Impairment	<11
Visual Impairment	<11