

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 – Age Breakdown

Question reference number: IQ23-000034

Question asked by: Jordon Steele-John

Type of Question: Written. Hansard Page: 43

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

Question:

Via Committee Secretary: The Senator [Steele-John] also wondered if you had provided the age breakdown of any the cohorts mentioned below:

Mr McNaughton: As at 31 March this year, so from the latest quarterly report, we had 4,864 participants who had ADHD as either their primary or secondary disability. Of those, 188 participants had it listed as their primary disability.

Senator Steele-John: What was that first figure?

Mr McNaughton: 4,864.

Senator Steele-John: Of which 188 list ADHD as their primary disability. So that means for those 188 people, ADHD was the reason for which their access request was granted?

Mr McNaughton: That's correct.

Senator Steele-John: Okay. And of that first figure, are you able to provide us with a breakdown of that based on gender? We have heard a lot about gender biases in relation to ADHD.

Mr McNaughton: Yes, I can. Of that 4,864, 3,300 were male and 1,488 were female and a further 76 did not record their sex status.

Senator Steele-John: Okay. And of the 188?

Mr McNaughton: One hundred and forty-six are male; 42 are female.

Senator Steele-John: Okay, so we do see that gender disparity there. Can you tell me, of the first figure, what their average plan size is?

Mr McNaughton: I can, Senator. Of all participants who have ADHD as either their primary or secondary disability, the average annualised committed supports in their plan, so their average plan value, is \$68,021. If ADHD is the primary disability, the average is \$35,532. And if it's not the primary disability, the average is \$69,327.

Answer:

The below tables show the breakdown of age cohorts as at 31 March 2023.

Table 1 Number of active NDIS participants with primary and non-primary disability of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder by age group

	0 to 6	7 to 14	15 to 18	19 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65+	Total
All ADHD	447	2,539	769	459	323	187	85	51	<11	4,864
ADHD Primary	<11	117	31	11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	188
ADHD Non-Primary	440	2,422	738	448	314	180	80	50	<11	4,676
All NDIS	95,773	155,651	50,409	48,444	51,495	46,070	54,034	63,988	26,195	592,059

Table 2 Number of active participants with primary and non-primary disability of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder by age group and gender

	0 to 6	7 to 14	15 to 18	19 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65+	Total
All ADHD	447	2,539	769	459	323	187	85	51	<11	4,864
Male	334	1,797	530	319	184	79	29	25	<11	3,300
Female	108	713	226	127	130	102	55	26	<11	1,488
Other	<11	29	13	13	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	76
ADHD Primary	<11	117	31	11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	188
Male	<11	94	24	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	146
Female	<11	23	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	42
Other	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11
ADHD Non-Primary	440	2,422	738	448	314	180	80	50	<11	4,676
Male	329	1,703	506	311	176	75	27	24	<11	3,154
Female	106	690	219	124	129	99	52	26	<11	1,446
Other	<11	29	13	13	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	76

Table 3 Average annualised plan budget (in \$) for active participants with primary and non-primary disability of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder by age group and support category

	0 to 6	7 to 14	15 to 18	19 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65+	Total
All ADHD	21,900	40,000	96,600	165,400	120,600	95,800	91,200	84,200	n/a	68,000
Daily Activities	15,000	42,800	89,500	114,000	71,400	47,400	43,500	35,700	n/a	66,800
Consumables	800	1,100	1,000	1,100	1,500	1,000	1,400	1,400	n/a	1,100
Social Community and Civic Participation	n/a	13,300	24,400	43,900	35,800	29,700	26,800	27,500	n/a	25,300
Transport	n/a	1,500	2,200	2,300	2,200	2,100	2,000	1,800	n/a	2,200
CB Choice and Control	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	n/a	1,500
CB Daily Activity	18,500	13,300	11,400	12,200	10,400	10,700	10,800	9,900	n/a	13,000
CB Employment	n/a	n/a	18,500	15,400	3,900	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	14,800
CB Health and Wellbeing	n/a	1,800	2,700	2,500	2,600	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,300
CB Home Living	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,100
CB Lifelong Learning	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CB Relationships	n/a	13,200	16,400	15,300	13,300	15,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	14,300
CB Social Community and Civic	n/a	5,000	7,800	9,400	7,900	9,500	11,200	n/a	n/a	6,600
Support Coordination	2,300	4,500	6,600	6,900	6,600	6,200	5,800	5,700	n/a	5,600
Assistive Technology	n/a	7,000	9,800	8,300	12,200	11,600	n/a	16,600	n/a	8,700
Home Modifications	n/a	n/a	n/a	11,800	12,200	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11,700

	0 to 6	7 to 14	15 to 18	19 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65+	Total
ADHD Primary	n/a	22,000	81,000	28,700	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	35,500
Daily Activities	n/a	13,800	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	37,500
Consumables	n/a	900	800	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	800
Social Community and Civic Participation	n/a	8,800	18,900	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	14,800
Transport	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,800
CB Choice and Control	n/a	1,400	1,400	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,400
CB Daily Activity	n/a	10,300	8,500	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9,900
CB Employment	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CB Health and Wellbeing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CB Home Living	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CB Lifelong Learning	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CB Relationships	n/a	9,900	12,400	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10,700
CB Social Community and Civic	n/a	7,200	7,200	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6,900
Support Coordination	n/a	3,600	6,300	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4,400
Assistive Technology	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Home Modifications	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
ADHD Non-Primary	21,900	40,900	97,200	168,800	122,500	97,800	93,300	85,300	n/a	69,300
Daily Activities	15,300	43,800	87,600	115,800	72,200	48,600	45,200	36,200	n/a	67,600
Consumables	800	1,100	1,000	1,100	1,500	1,000	1,400	1,400	n/a	1,100
Social Community and Civic Participation	n/a	13,500	24,600	44,300	36,300	30,200	27,300	27,900	n/a	25,600
Transport	n/a	1,600	2,200	2,300	2,200	2,100	2,000	1,800	n/a	2,200
CB Choice and Control	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	n/a	1,500
CB Daily Activity	18,500	13,400	11,500	12,300	10,400	10,800	10,800	10,000	n/a	13,100
CB Employment	n/a	n/a	19,000	15,700	3,900	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	15,100
CB Health and Wellbeing	n/a	1,800	2,700	2,500	2,600	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,300
CB Home Living	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,100
CB Lifelong Learning	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CB Relationships	n/a	13,300	16,600	15,400	13,400	15,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	14,500
CB Social Community and Civic	n/a	5,000	7,800	9,500	8,000	9,500	12,200	n/a	n/a	6,600
Support Coordination	2,300	4,500	6,600	7,000	6,700	6,300	5,800	5,800	n/a	5,700
Assistive Technology	n/a	7,000	9,800	8,300	12,200	11,600	n/a	16,600	n/a	8,700
Home Modifications	n/a	n/a	n/a	11,800	12,200	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11,700

Table 4 Access decisions and access met for active participants with primary and non-primary disability of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder by age group at access decision

	0 to 6	7 to 14	15 to 18	19 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65+	Total
All ADHD										
Access decisions	1,945	4,311	734	375	438	291	162	70	<11	8,442
Access met	1,662	2,231	482	249	248	163	81	38	<11	5,167
% eligible	85%	52%	66%	66%	57%	56%	50%	54%	n/a	61%
ADHD Primary										
Access decisions	376	1,776	171	70	93	68	34	12	<11	2,678
Access met	136	112	12	12	<11	<11	<11	<11	<11	290
% eligible	36%	6%	7%	17%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11%
ADHD Non-Primary										
Access decisions	1,569	2,535	563	305	345	223	128	58	<11	5,764
Access met	1,526	2,119	470	237	244	155	77	37	<11	4,877
% eligible	97%	84%	83%	78%	71%	70%	60%	64%	n/a	85%

The age groups in the Table 4 are based on the age at the date of the access decision, not the age at reporting date (31 March 2023). Applicants with missing age information are not included in the age splits but are included in the totals.

Please refer to IQ23-000032 for further details.