

**Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**  
**Public Hearing – 6 August 2024**  
**NDIS Amendment (Getting the NDIS Back on Track No.1) Bill 2024**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**National Disability Insurance Agency**

**Topic:** Intra-plan Inflation

**Question reference number:** NDIA IQ24-000046

**Question asked by:** Jordon Steele-John

**Type of Question:** Spoken. Hansard Page: 7

**Date set by the Committee for the return of answer:** 7 August 2024

**Question:**

Senator STEELE-JOHN: What was the cohort you studied? You said that, in the intraplan inflation, you studied in the section that you reviewed—I can't remember your precise wording. But how many people were in that cohort of participants, and what period of time was it?

Mr Gifford: There were about 300 plans. What we observe is that, for some participants where there is intraplan inflation, they have multiple plans over a period. I can take the precise number of participants on notice, but in terms of the cohort themselves we attempted, as we always do when we do these sorts of samples, to have as statistically representative a sample as possible. We would attempt to stratify the sample across characteristics such as age, plan value et cetera.

Senator STEELE-JOHN: So there were roughly 300 plans. What years did you study? Did you compare the current year to the previous year? What was the process?

Mr Gifford: I can take the precise dates that the plans covered on notice. The work was done late in the 2023 calendar year. My memory would be that the plans we were reviewing would have probably been in effect over the 2022 and 2023 calendar years—that sort of time period. In a sense, at the point that we were undertaking the analysis, they would have been the most recent plans that we had available, but I can take that on notice to give a slightly more precise answer.

Senator STEELE-JOHN: Yes, could you take on notice the precise year studied and the precise number of participants included within the piece of reference work here. Can you also give us a breakdown of the type of primary and secondary disability recorded against the participants' relevant data.

**Answer:**

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) analysed a random sample of 113 National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants who had been identified as having intra-plan inflation in the 12 month period to 30 September 2023. Each of the 113 NDIS participants had between 2 and 5 active plans during this period totalling 325 plans.

For each NDIS participant in the sample, all plans that were active during the period of 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023 were considered. The time period reviewed for each participant varied depending on the date their first NDIS plan was approved. The earliest approved NDIS plan in the sample was 4 June 2020.

The table below shows a breakdown of the type of primary and secondary disability recorded against the participants relevant data.

Primary disability group	No. of participants
Autism	37
Intellectual Disability and Down Syndrome	17
Psychosocial Disability	15
Developmental Delay and Global Developmental Delay	4
Hearing Impairment	5
Cerebral Palsy	3
Acquired Brain Injury	11
Visual Impairment	1
Multiple Sclerosis	1
Stroke	5
Spinal Cord Injury	3
Other	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>

Secondary disability	No. of participants
Autism	1
Intellectual Disability and Down Syndrome	12
Psychosocial Disability	15
Developmental Delay and Global Developmental Delay	3
Hearing Impairment	1
Cerebral Palsy	0
Acquired Brain Injury	2
Visual Impairment	6
Multiple Sclerosis	0
Stroke	1
Spinal Cord Injury	0
Other	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>