

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ15-000024

Topic: NDIS

Hansard page: Written

Senator Wright, Penny asked:

How many people in Australia will qualify for an NDIS package as a result of their mental illness?

Answer:

The Productivity Commission estimated there would be 57,000 people with a mental illness who would need an individually funded support package from the NDIS in order to live independently in the community.

This estimate was derived from work undertaken in 2010 by the then Department of Health and Aging to estimate the number of adults, aged 18 to 64 years, with severe and persistent mental illness, who have complex support needs requiring the involvement of multiple agencies.

The Productivity Commission figures are still used as the most accurate estimates of the anticipated mental health cohort.