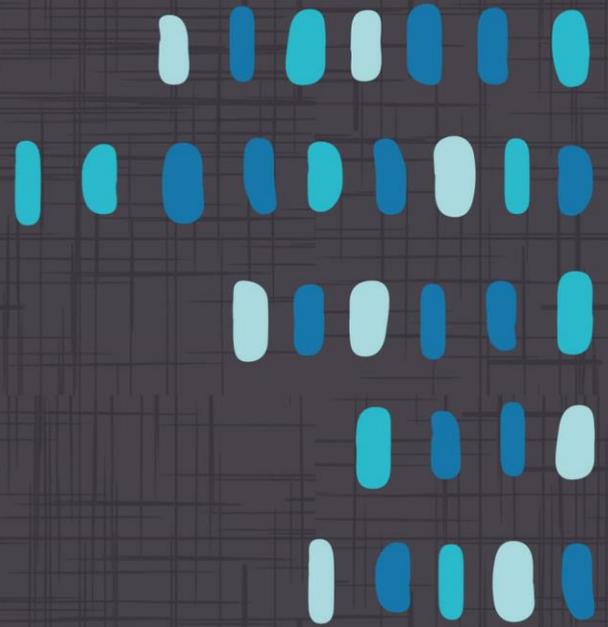




Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Communities**



# **National Disability Insurance Scheme**

**Western Australia**

**Quarterly Performance Report**

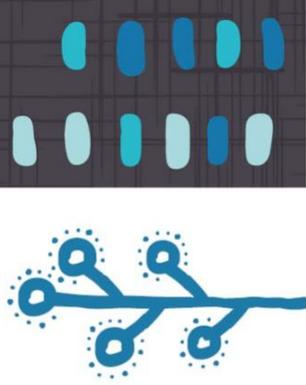
**December 2017**



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The Disability Services Commission is the statutory authority responsible for disability services in Western Australia. On 1 July 2017, the Disability Services Commission became part of the newly formed Department of Communities. For the purposes of this report, the Disability Services Commission is referred to as the Department of Communities (Disability Services).



# Foreword

On 12 December 2017, the Commonwealth and Western Australian governments signed a new Bilateral Agreement which will see the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) assume responsibility for delivering the NDIS in WA from 1 July 2018.

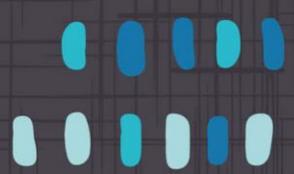
The new agreement replaces the Bilateral Agreement between the Commonwealth and Western Australian governments for transition to a nationally consistent, State-administered National Disability Insurance Scheme in Western Australia (WA NDIS), which was signed on 31 January 2017.

The WA Government will continue operation of the existing State-administered NDIS sites in the Kimberley-Pilbara, North East Metropolitan, South Metropolitan, Lower South West, Cockburn-Kwinana and Central South Metropolitan regions until their transfer to the NDIA.

This report provides a performance snapshot of the State-administered regions of the NDIS in WA as at 31 December 2017.



<sup>1</sup> Includes individuals carried forward from State-administered regions of the WA NDIS.



# Actuary's statement



The WA NDIS scheme has continued to grow at a rapid pace following the rollout of three more sites in July 2017. Since our last quarterly update, the number of participants grew by 20 per cent and there are now 6,621 participants spread across the six regions. Funding levels have grown at a higher rate than the growth in participants (by 30 per cent). The scheme now provides \$215 million in annual funding to support participants.

The Department of Communities (Disability Services) have maintained their high plan approval rate over the latest quarter – the number of active plans grew by 23 per cent. The proportion of participants with an approved plan has risen from 82 per cent as at 30 September 2017 to 85 per cent as at 31 December 2017. As the newest sites continue to mature, we anticipate that this proportion will rise in future quarters.

The average annualised committed cost has increased by six per cent since 30 September 2017 and is now \$38,389. Growth in average funding is a result of the entry of higher need participants in the newest WA NDIS sites. We anticipate that the average committed cost in these sites will decrease as lower needs participants begin to enter over the coming quarters. Nevertheless, the average annualised committed cost of WA NDIS remains seven per cent below the Bilateral Agreement average plan size of \$41,383.

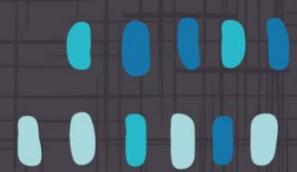
In line with the Bilateral Agreement between the State and Commonwealth, the administration of the scheme will change hands from the Department of Communities (Disability Services) to the National Disability Insurance Agency, with full transition expected to be completed in 2023.

Alan Greenfield

Principal

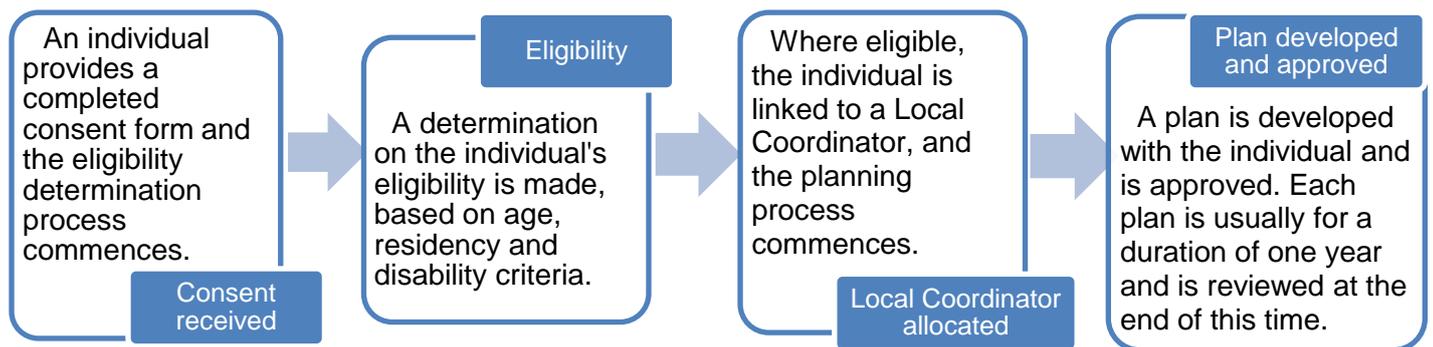
Taylor Fry Analytics and Actuarial Consulting





# Getting started with the WA NDIS

The process for getting started with the WA NDIS involves four key milestones, as outlined in Figure 1.



**Figure 1: The key milestones when getting started with the NDIS**

Table 1 shows year to date intake of new eligible individuals. A total of 2,283 individuals had an initial plan approved.

**Table 1: Intake**

Individuals with an initial plan approved	2,283
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The average timeframe from receipt of an individual’s consent form to the date the plan is approved is 63 days. Table 2 shows the time from consent to each milestone in this quarter.

**Table 2: Milestone timeframes**

	Consent date to eligibility determination	Consent date to linking with Local Coordinator	Consent date to plan approval
This year	23 days	22 days	63 days



## Outcome of eligibility applications

To access the WA NDIS, an individual must meet specific eligibility requirements.<sup>2</sup> After consenting to an eligibility determination, an individual receives confirmation of whether they are eligible for the WA NDIS or not.

A total of 1,802 individuals have given consent to an initial eligibility determination year to date. Of these, 1,153 met the eligibility requirements for the WA NDIS and 243 were determined to be ineligible. Seventy-nine applications were withdrawn, and a further 327 applications remain in progress. Of the 1,802 individuals determined to be eligible year to date, 598 had a plan approved in the quarter.

Table 3 and Table 4 present the outcomes of eligibility determinations year to date.

**Table 3: Outcomes of eligibility determinations**

Outcome	Number of applicants	Percentage
Eligible	1,153	83%
Ineligible	243	17%

**Table 4: Ineligible individual characteristics**

	Number of individuals
Disability criteria not met	224
Residency criteria not met	12
Other reason	7
<b>Total ineligible individuals</b>	<b>243</b>

<sup>2</sup> The specific requirements are outlined here: <http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/wa-ndis/wa-ndis/eligibility/who-is-eligible/>



# Providers and markets

## Number of approved providers

An approved provider is a business or organisation that formally registers with the Department of Communities (Disability Services) to deliver a product or service to individuals in the WA NDIS.

Potential providers apply for the cluster(s) of services they wish to provide to individuals with disability. Each application for registration is assessed by a panel, and providers must meet specific criteria for the relevant cluster(s) to be registered. Panel recommendations and supporting documentation is submitted to the Disability Services Board for endorsement.

There was a seven per cent increase in the number of service providers this quarter.

## Provider characteristics and market profile

Table 5: Jurisdiction and service type

Service Provider Profile	Allied Health	Disability Support	Disability Equipment	Plan Management	Other	Total Service Providers <sup>3</sup>
<b>Footprint</b>						
National	10	19	2	9	6	16
State	82	149	28	39	20	177
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>193</b>

<sup>3</sup> Service providers may deliver multiple services; service types will therefore generally be greater than the total number of service providers.



**Table 6: Provider type and service type**

<b>Service Provider Profile</b>	<b>Allied Health</b>	<b>Disability Support</b>	<b>Disability Equipment</b>	<b>Plan Management</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total Service Providers<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>Provider type</b>						
Not-for-Profit Organisations	43	99	20	38	23	99
For Profit Organisations	49	67	8	9	3	91
Public and Government Agencies <sup>5</sup>	0	2	2	1	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>193</b>

<sup>4</sup> Service providers may deliver multiple services; service types will therefore generally be greater than the total number of service providers.

<sup>5</sup> Public and government agencies include other government departments or agencies and Local Government Authorities that provide specific services to people with disability.

# Outcomes for individuals

## Proportion of plans with goals achieved

An individual's goals are included in their WA NDIS plan. These goals enable the individual and their Local Coordinator to determine whether the plan is appropriate for the individual. The outcome of each goal is linked to one of six specific domains, which are:



Economic



Education



Health and well-being



Independence



Living arrangements



Social

A review occurs either at a plan's end date, or as requested due to changed circumstances. If progress has been made toward 50 per cent or more of an individual's goals at the time the plan is reviewed, the individual's plan is considered to have been achieved. The review process allows for consideration of the individual's goals and informs development of subsequent plans.

Of all plans reviewed year to date, 87 per cent included overall goal outcomes which had been achieved, as shown in Table 7. This is in line with the result seen in previous quarters.

**Table 7: Proportion of plans with goals achieved**

	Number of plans reviewed	Proportion
Plans with goals achieved	1,246	87%
Plans with goals not achieved	186	13%
<b>Total plans reviewed</b>	<b>1,432</b>	



## Proportion of goals achieved in social and economic domains

Of all plans reviewed year to date, five per cent of goals identified economic outcomes, and 79 per cent of these were achieved. Twenty per cent of goals identified social outcomes, of which 71 per cent were achieved. These results are shown in Table 8.

**Table 8: Plan goal achievement linked to improved economic and social outcomes**

Domain	Proportion of total plan goals	Proportion with plan goals achieved
Economic	5%	79%
Social	20%	71%



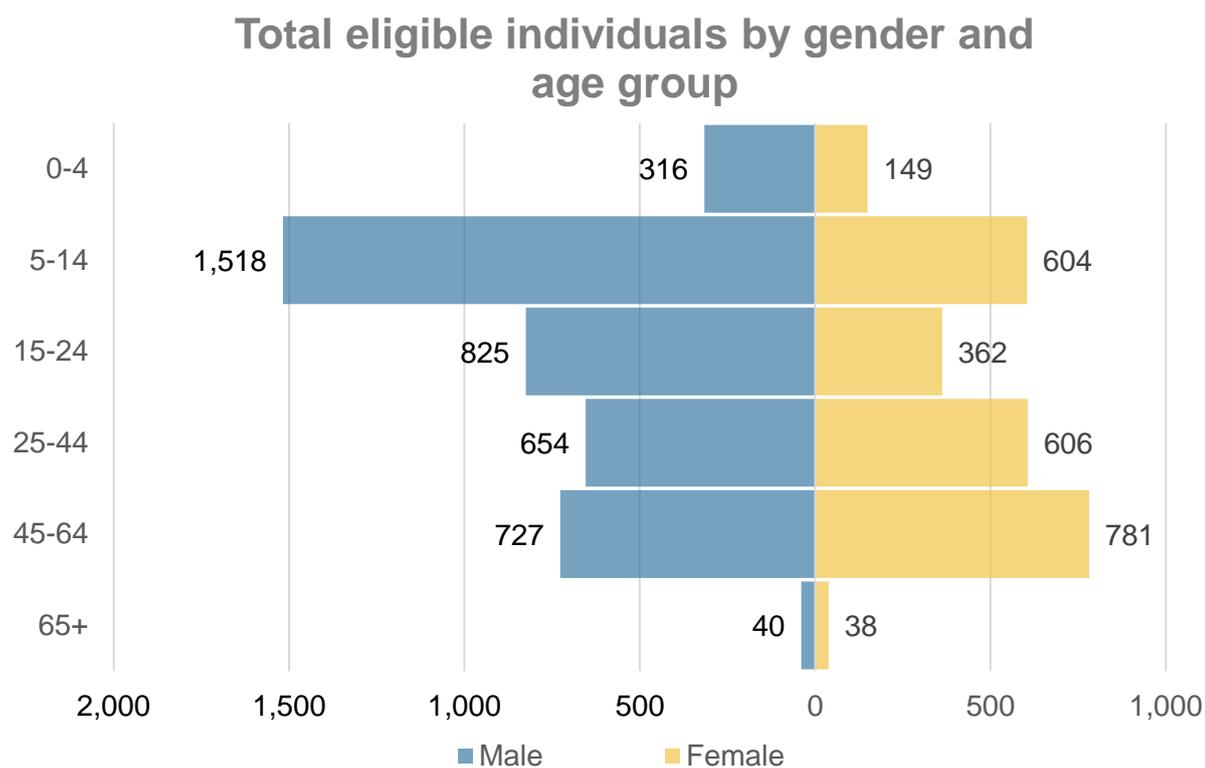
# Characteristics of participating individuals

## Numbers of individuals and average costs

### Gender and age group

There were 6,621 eligible individuals at the end of the quarter, of which 62 per cent were male. More than 32 per cent of the 6,621 individuals are aged 5 to 14, making this the largest age group.

Figure 2 shows the gender and age profile at the end of this quarter.



**Figure 2: Gender and age group profiles**

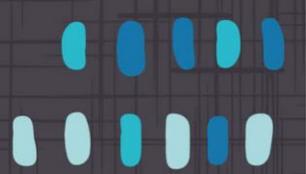
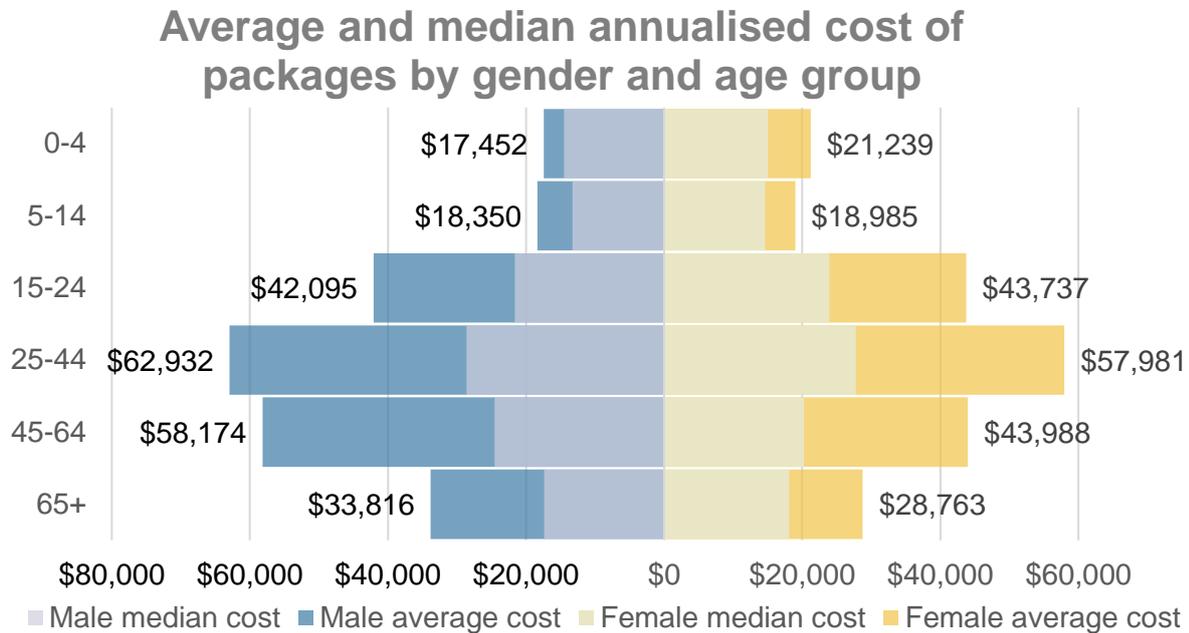


Figure 3 shows package costs by gender and age group. The average and median annualised package cost is highest for participants in the 25 to 44 age group. This is consistent with the cost profile seen in previous quarters.



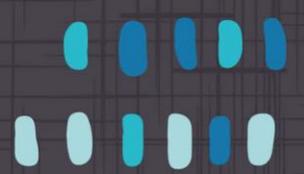
**Figure 3: Average and median annualised package cost by gender and age group**

## Cultural and linguistic diversity

There are 420 individuals who identify as culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD), equivalent to six per cent of eligible individuals.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

There are 622 individuals who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, equivalent to more than nine per cent of eligible individuals.



## Disability category

The disability categories with the highest numbers of individuals are intellectual disability and autism, as seen in Figure 4.

### Total eligible individuals by disability category

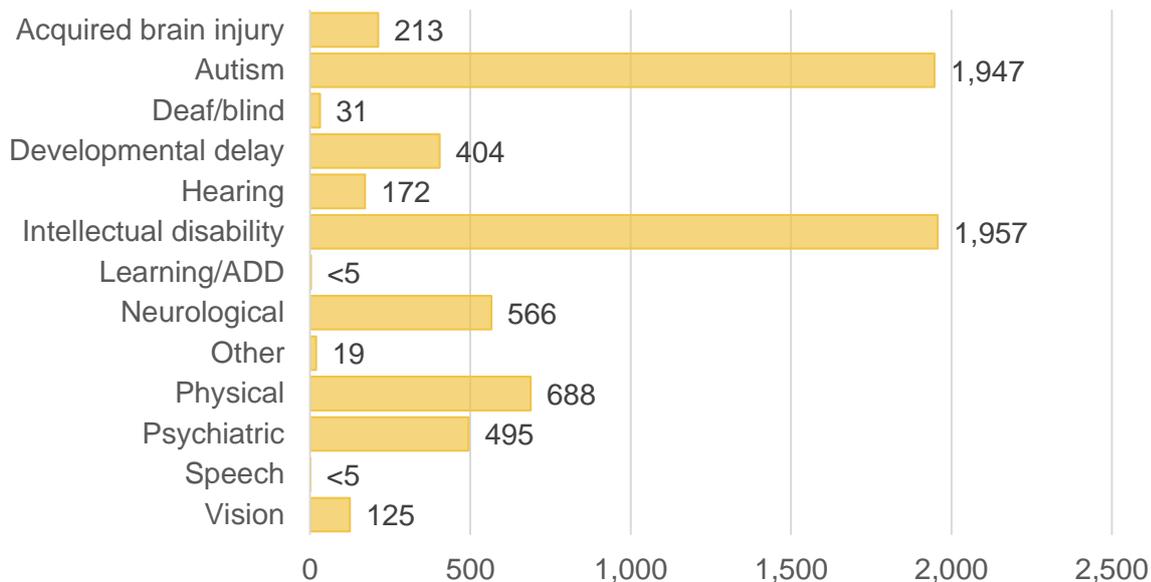


Figure 4: Total eligible individuals by disability category

Average and median annualised package cost is highest in the acquired brain injury category, followed by the intellectual disability category. The average annualised package cost in the acquired brain injury category is \$79,549 and the median is \$34,864.

### Average and median cost of packages by disability category

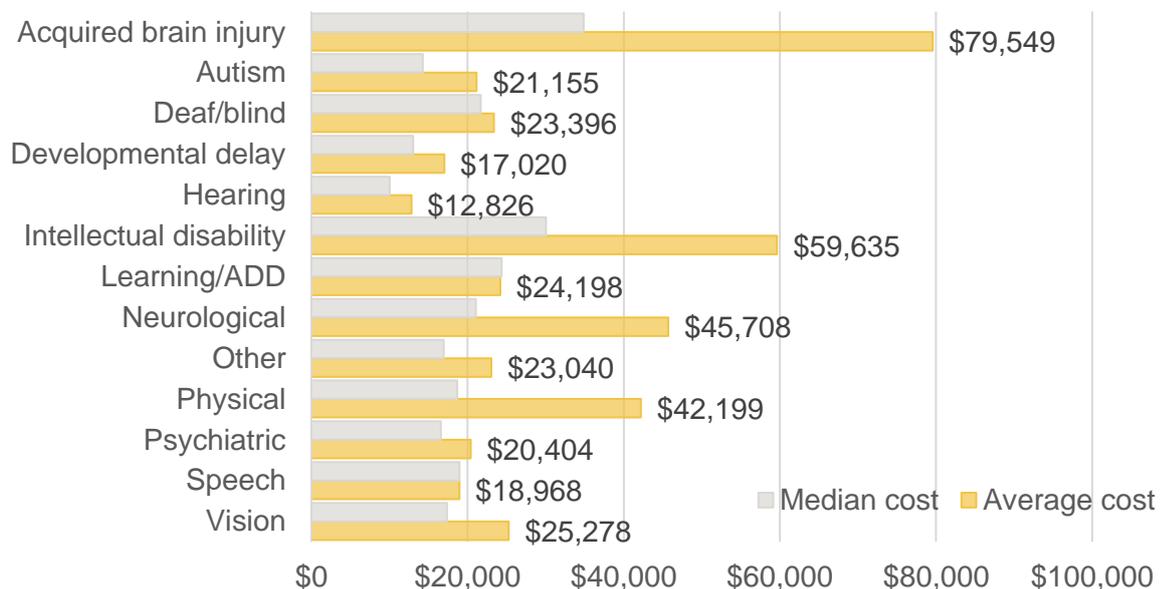


Figure 5: Average and median annualised package cost by disability category



# Scheme sustainability

## Committed support

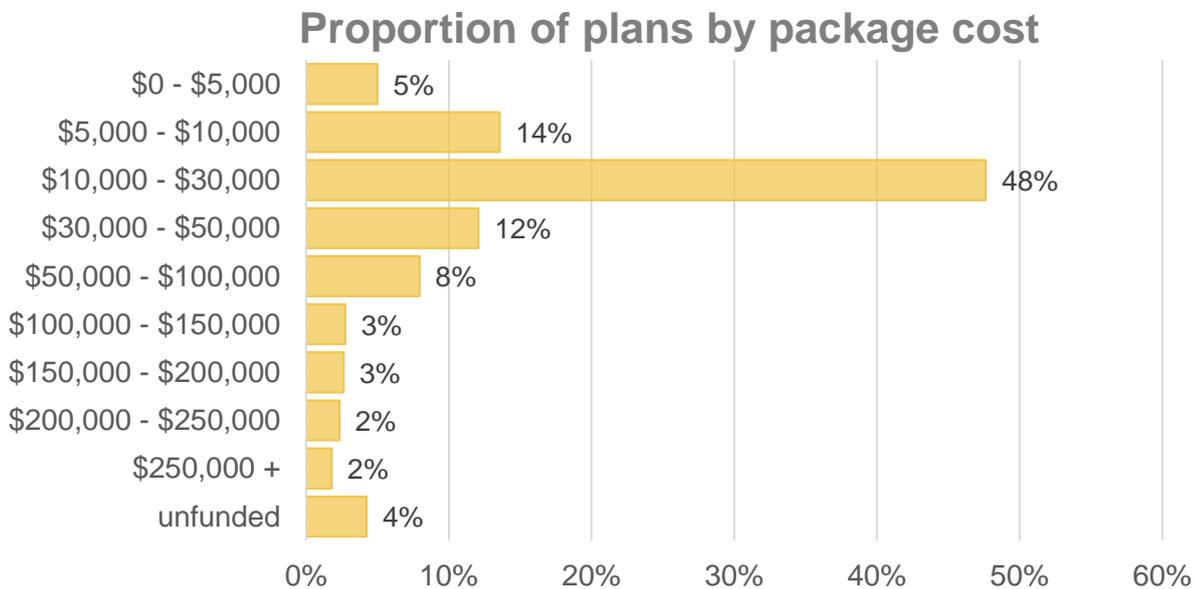
Committed support is the value of support services in an individual’s plan, as an annualised amount. The total annualised value of all current plans at the end of the quarter assumes that all current plans have a 12 month duration. Where the plan is shorter than 12 months the costs are ‘annualised’, or calculated for a 12 month period. The total committed support in plans active at the end of this quarter is approximately \$215 million.

## Actual payments

Year to date, actual payments made in relation to plans totalled \$82 million.

## Distribution of package costs

Figure 6 presents the distribution of package costs. Almost 50 per cent of plans are between \$10,000 and \$30,000.



**Figure 6: Proportion of plans by package cost**

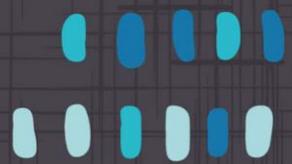


## Total, average and median plan costs

The average plan cost is the total committed cost of current plans divided by the total number of current plans. The median is the mid-point value when current plans are ordered in ascending order of committed cost. Table 9 presents information about current plans as at the end of the quarter.

**Table 9: Total, average and median plan costs**

Total current plans	5,610
Total committed cost	\$215,362,164
Average committed plan cost	\$38,389
Median committed plan cost	\$17,790



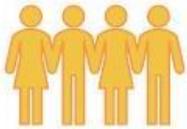
# Information, linkages and capacity building

Information, linkages and capacity building (ILC) supports individuals with disability, their families and carers to participate in their community, while also supporting communities to become more accessible and inclusive.

## ILC grants

Three ILC priority areas were identified: information and advice on the WA NDIS, preparation for the planning process, and information on self-management of supports and services. In May 2017 grants to 13 organisations were funded to focus on these areas.

ILC grant activities are directed to people across the State. Focused cohorts for ILC activities are directed to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, particularly in the Kimberley-Pilbara region, as well as individuals from CaLD backgrounds in metropolitan areas.



**Year to date, 2,195 people were involved in ILC grant activities in regions across the State.**



**These activities included hosting information sessions and workshops, developing booklets, toolkits, audio-visual and advertising materials, and undertaking individual consultations.**

## Local Coordination

Local Coordinators provide ILC supports to individuals, families and carers by:

- Providing information about the supports and services in their community, and assisting individuals and families to connect with those supports and services.
- Building the capacity of individuals to self-advocate more effectively, and exercise choice and control over their lives.
- Building the capacity of communities to be more supportive of individuals with disability, and to meet their needs in a flexible, inclusive and responsive way.
- Assisting individuals to link with advocacy services where required, including the provision of some direct advocacy support.