

Towards a non-disabling New Zealand

The annual report from the Minister for Disability Issues
to the House of Representatives on implementation of
the New Zealand Disability Strategy

December 2021



Author

Office for Disability Issues, Ministry of Social Development

Acknowledgements

This report was presented in December 2021 to the House of Representatives by the Minister for Disability Issues under Section 8 of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000.

Published

This report is available online at: www.odi.govt.nz

ISSN: 2537-7701

Contents

Minister’s foreword	3
Background	6
Section one: Key achievements contributing to disabled people’s wellbeing in 2021	7
Outcome One: Education	8
Ministry of Education (Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga)	8
Tertiary Education Commission (Te Amorangi Mātauranga Matua).....	10
Indicators.....	13
Outcome Two: Employment and economic security.....	16
Ministry of Social Development (Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora)	16
Indicators.....	18
Outcome three: Health and wellbeing	21
Ministry of Health (Manatū Hauora)	21
Sport New Zealand (Ihi Aotearoa)	23
Office for Seniors (Te Tari Kaumātua).....	25
Indicators.....	26
Outcome four: Rights protection and justice	29
Department of Corrections (Ara Poutama Aotearoa)	29
Ministry of Justice (Te Tāhū o te Ture).....	30
Joint Venture	31
Indicators.....	33
Outcome five: Accessibility	36
Ministry of Social Development (Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora)	36
Te Manatū Waka (Ministry of Transport) and Waka Kotahi (New Zealand Transport Authority)	38

Kāinga Ora and Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga).....	41
Indicators.....	44
Outcome six: Attitudes.....	47
Indicators.....	47
Outcome seven: Choice and control	49
Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Development	49
Ministry of Health	50
Indicators.....	50
Outcome eight: Leadership.....	52
Office for Disability Issues.....	52
i.Lead	54
Indicators.....	55
Disability data	57
New Zealand’s international obligations.....	60
Section three: Looking forward to 2022 and beyond.....	61
Appendix one: Relationship between the UNCRPD, the New Zealand Disability Strategy, and the Disability Action Plan	62
Appendix two: Disability Action Plan 2019-2023	63

Minister's foreword

One million New Zealanders (24%) are disabled¹. The Government is committed to building a more inclusive and accessible society and ensuring disabled people have full rights and opportunities like other New Zealanders.

I'm pleased to release this annual report on the implementation of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (the Strategy). The Strategy, and the Disability Action Plan 2019-2023 are important mechanisms to focus on and celebrate the combined efforts to improve outcomes for disabled people in New Zealand.

This report provides a snapshot of the work across government portfolios to progress the rights of and opportunities for disabled people. In 2021:

- Agencies have continued to improve the identification and removal of barriers that disabled people experience, ensuring they have the same opportunities and life-outcomes as other New Zealanders. This is especially positive considering the significant pressure COVID-19 has continued to put on essential services and government agencies.
- Agencies are regularly reporting on their progress against work programmes they have initiated as part of their work to realise the Disability Strategy.



**Hon Carmel Sepuloni,
Minister for Disability Issues**

Image description: Minister Sepuloni of Tongan, Samoan and New Zealand European descent. In this photo she is standing facing the camera, smiling widely and her long brown hair is out. She is wearing a blue and black blazer with a pacific motif, red hoop earrings and red lipstick.

¹ 2013 Census

- Work to improve data collection continues to progress, and for the second time this report includes progress on measures against some of the Disability Action Plan outcomes.
- The Ministerial Leadership Group on Disability Issues continued to meet with the Independent Monitoring Mechanism. Topics discussed this year include progress made on the Accessibility Charter, disability data and evidence, New Zealand's progress on implementing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities, how we can give effect to General Comment No. 7², and creating a government system that aligns supports and services, and drives improved outcomes and choice and control for disabled people.

In October this year, I was pleased to announce the establishment of a Ministry for Disabled People³. We know the current disability system is broken and puts too many barriers in place for disabled people and whānau. A new Ministry will join up all the supports and services available to disabled people and replace a fragmented system where there is no single agency responsible for driving improved overall outcomes for disabled people.

The Government is also accelerating efforts to make New Zealand more accessible by introducing a new accessibility framework, backed by legislation and a new Accessibility Governance Board. The Governance Board will be led by and represent disabled people and whānau.

² The United Nations Committee (the Committee) issued new guidance on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in 2018.

This guidance, issued as General Comment No. 7:

- upholds the right of all disabled people to participate and to be involved in all issues relating to them.
- clarifies State parties' obligations to ensure the participation of disabled people, through their representative organisations, in the implementation and monitoring of the UNCRPD, in line with articles 4(3) and 33(3).

³ Formal name to be agreed in consultation with disabled people.

The disability community's voices will be embedded at all levels of decision-making, from the formation and running of the Ministry, to the development of accessibility legislation,

I am looking forward to building on these achievements next year and continuing the focus on bringing about meaningful, long-lasting improvements in the daily lives of disabled New Zealanders.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Sepuloni', with a stylized, cursive script.

Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Minister for Disability Issues

Background

Every year, the Minister for Disability Issues provides an Annual Report to Parliament on the progress made to implement the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (Disability Strategy)⁴. The report summarises activities and work programmes, underway or completed, that are contributing to improving disabled New Zealanders' wellbeing and the progressive realisation of their human rights.

The Disability Strategy represents New Zealand's approach for the progressive realisation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in the New Zealand context.

This report notes key achievements and activities to improve disabled people's wellbeing and quality of life in 2021.

⁴ The New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026: <https://www.odi.govt.nz/nz-disability-strategy/about-the-strategy/new-zealand-disability-strategy-2016-2026/>.

Section one: Key achievements contributing to disabled people's wellbeing in 2021

This report summarises what has been achieved in 2021 on the eight Disability Action Plan 2019-2023 (DAP)⁵ Strategy outcomes and initiatives that drive progress towards the overall vision:

"New Zealand is a non-disabling society - a place where disabled people have an equal opportunity to achieve their goals and aspirations, and all of New Zealand works together to make this happen."

New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026

Launched in November 2019, the DAP is the primary vehicle for implementing the Disability Strategy over a four period⁶. The DAP aims to improve the wellbeing of disabled people through progress on the eight interconnected outcomes in the Disability Strategy: education, employment and economic security, health and wellbeing, rights protection and justice, accessibility, attitudes, choice and control, and leadership.

The DAP includes a package of 29 cross-government work programmes, underway or planned, by 15 government agencies and their partners. The DAP is not static, and work programmes can be added as required. These work programmes are not business-as-usual disability programmes; they are intended to create a significant shift in outcomes for disabled people.

ODI, with the Disabled Peoples Organisations (DPO) Coalition, manages six-monthly reporting against the DAP. The first two reports, covering January to June 2020, and July to December 2021 were published in 2021. The publication of the January to June 2021 report has been delayed by COVID-19. This report will be published on the ODI website soon.

⁵ A summary of the Disability Action Plan is attached as Appendix Two.

⁶ The relationship between the UNCRPD, the Disability Strategy and the Disability Action Plan is illustrated in Appendix One.

Outcome One: Education

We get an excellent education and achieve our potential throughout our lives

Ministry of Education (Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga)

Disabled people's participation, progress and achievement in all levels of education has remained a key area of focus for the Ministry of Education in 2021. This year has seen the establishment of Te Māhau⁷ within the Ministry, which aims to enable greater resource and capability at the frontline and strengthen relationships with diverse communities, to support disabled ākonga (students) and ākonga with learning support needs.

COVID-19 continues to impact the landscape of education. Supports from learning support specialist staff have been adapted for a COVID-19 environment through video technology and telepractice sessions that help families to support learners using resources in their home. This work has involved disabled student representatives through regular hui and was supported by funding to enable access to devices and connectivity.

Highest Needs Review

The Ministry has begun the Review of Interventions for Students with the Highest Level of Learning Support Needs. The Review will take a whole child and their family/whānau approach to ensure children and young people with the highest needs for learning support achieve their full potential. The Ministry consulted with Disabled People's Organisations when developing the initial scope of the review and an Advisory Group is being established including representatives from Disabled People's Organisations.

⁷ previously referred to as the Education Service Agency,

Policy and system changes

The voices of disabled young people, representatives from the disabled community and disability networks have been key across many of the Ministry's work programmes to ensure that decision making is inclusive and is guided by what is most important to disabled people and their whānau. Engagement with disability groups and work on key policy and system changes to further improve outcomes for disabled learners continues, including:

- The NCEA change package to include new content and guidance about inclusion and standards of accessibility and reduce barriers to access.
- The refresh of the New Zealand Curriculum over the next five years with explicit bicultural and inclusive framing so that it fits and responds to diversity and the uniqueness of all learners.
- Engagement with the Disability Data and Evidence Working Group (DDEWG) on the Te Rito initiative to gather more comprehensive disaggregated data about the needs of disabled ākonga and hold their rights as paramount in the use of data.
- Engaging with iwi and Māori organisations on implementing Ka Hikitia Ka Hāpaitia, co-designing a learning support programme for ākonga Māori, and exploring Māori world views on neurodiversity.
- Key involvement of disabled tertiary learners in strengthening student voice and in the development of the new code of pastoral care and the Dispute Resolution Scheme for domestic tertiary students.
- Further support for disabled ākonga through the reform of Vocational Education to develop a tailored funding approach for supporting higher investment support needs, guiding Workforce Development Councils to contribute to equitable outcomes for disabled learners, and supporting the

Employment Service in Schools for disabled secondary school students.

- Undertaking two phases of evaluation for Learning Support Coordinators who coordinate access to services and delivery of learning support to ākonga.
- Developing and funding postgraduate education for specialist teachers across a range of disciplines.
- Continued commitment to the Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities and the Tertiary Education Strategy, which contain explicit reference to ensuring that places of learning are safe, inclusive, and free from discrimination or bullying.

Tertiary Education Commission (Te Amorangi Mātauranga Matua)

Strengthening tertiary education responses to support disabled people's access, participation and success

Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) has, as its primary focus, equity of access, participation and outcomes for all New Zealanders. Particular attention is focused on the needs of disabled people due to the long legacy of being significantly underserved in the tertiary education system.

The combined effect of work under this programme works to address these inequities and seeks to encourage and support tertiary education organisations (TEOs) to take a strong, proactive approach to improving outcomes for disabled and neurodiverse learners. TEC wants to enable TEOs and the tertiary sector to better support disabled learners to greatly improve disabled people's access to, participation in, and achievement in, tertiary education. All work undertaken is in conjunction with/involving disabled people as lived experience experts.

TEC Disability Action Plan

TEC has developed and implemented a Disability Action Plan (DAP) for the Commission (2020 outcome). This DAP is TEC's documentation of their commitment to ensuring the best possible outcomes for disabled New Zealanders and is part of TEC's day-to-day business practice.

TEC has introduced a new Investment Plan requirement related to the creation DAPs

In August 2021, TEC introduced a new Investment Plan requirement related to the creation DAPs. A DAP helps an organisation to identify appropriate practices and offer a blueprint for change, is a strategy for changing practices which might result in discrimination against disabled and neurodiverse people and works to improve outcomes for learners in their education journey. The DAP will sit within wider work on Learner Success Plans which is being undertaken by many TEOs.

In the first year of this requirement (plans submitted for investment from 2023), it applies only to providers receiving over \$5 million in funding from TEC, who are submitting a full plan (strategic intent).

The DAP Guidance is supported by a toolkit for practice, *Kia Ōrite*.

Kia Ōrite

Development of the *Kia Ōrite* toolkit, 'A New Zealand code of practice to achieve an inclusive and equitable tertiary education environment for disabled learners' is a re-development and expansion of the *Kia Ōrite* Code of Practice policy document which provided advice to the sector for over 15 years.

Kia Ōrite provides current, New Zealand-specific management and learning support implementation toolkits to assist TEOs to better support disabled learners, implement best practice and develop a DAP, covering all aspects of a learner's life.

The aim of the toolkit is to assist all staff to become more 'disability confident' and take responsibility for implementing the toolkit and DAP.

Kia Ōrite is being developed as a living resource suite and will continue to be added to over time.

TEC are gathering detailed data on supports for disabled tertiary learners

Over the past three years, TEC has collected detailed data from TEOs regarding the supports they provide for disabled learners. TEC require all universities, wānanga and polytechnics⁸ to report how they are spending equity funding for disabled learners.

Data analysis is being used to help identify best practice, determine system gaps, and inform the design of the Unified Funding System. Reporting on this data is available on TEC's website and will continue into 2022 and beyond.

Development of an online career planning solution is progressing

TEC are developing the new careers planning solution - Tahatū.

Tahatū will replace careers.govt.nz to give people information and pathways to different careers, and will connect employers, government agencies, learners and their whānau, schools and tertiary providers, making it easier to work towards common goals. The system will ensure that all New Zealanders, including disabled people, are able to use and get value from the site. It will be accessible by design, mobile first, and culturally affirming.

TEC is increasing focus on the needs of neurodiverse learners

TEC has instigated a work programme to develop tools and resources to support TEOs and employers in work-based learning to support neurodiverse learners. TEC has published reports and resources relating to dyslexia, and is developing material relating

⁸ Polytechnics are now subsidiaries of Te Pūkenga - New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology

to dyscalculia and autism, in conjunction with subject matter experts and people with lived experience. This work is supported by TEC's Neurodiversity Advisory Group.

Indicators

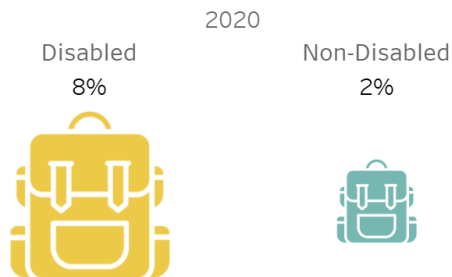
ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

Inequality in education outcomes for disabled people

1.1 Disabled people and their whānau are welcomed at the education setting of their choice.

Proportion of children with 3+ non-structural school moves

Ministry of Education administrative data & 2013 Disability Survey (using IDI)

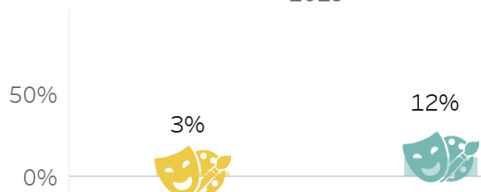


Proportion disagreeing that they feel welcome at their child's school (NZCER, 2019)

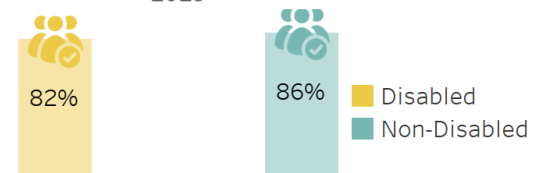


1.2 Disabled people participate and are included in the entire education system and extra-curricular activities.

Proportion of people that are enrolled in non-compulsory education
Household Labourforce Survey 2019

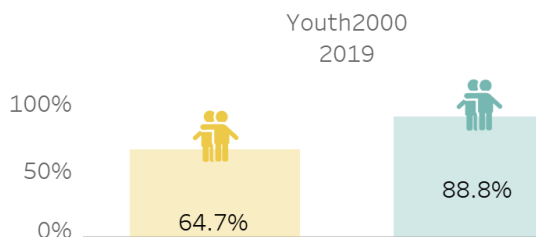


School attendance rates(="present") among 12-19 year olds
Youth2000 2019

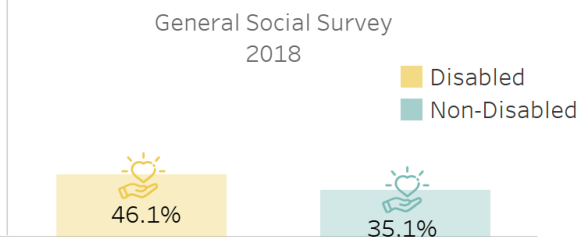


1.3 Disabled people have positive experiences in education.

Proportion of Māori/Pasifika youth feeling like a part of school

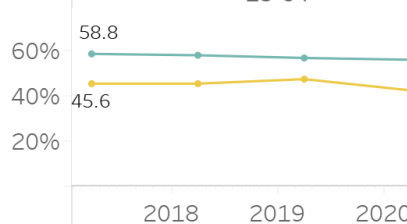


Proportion of people that hold a high level of trust (7 or above out of 10) for the education system.

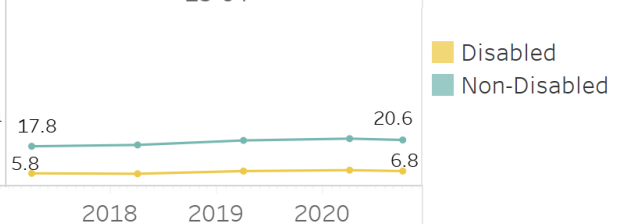


1.4 Disabled people achieve and progress in education.

School qualification (HLFS) 15-64



Postgraduate qualification or higher (HLFS) 15-64



Progress in education outcomes for disabled people

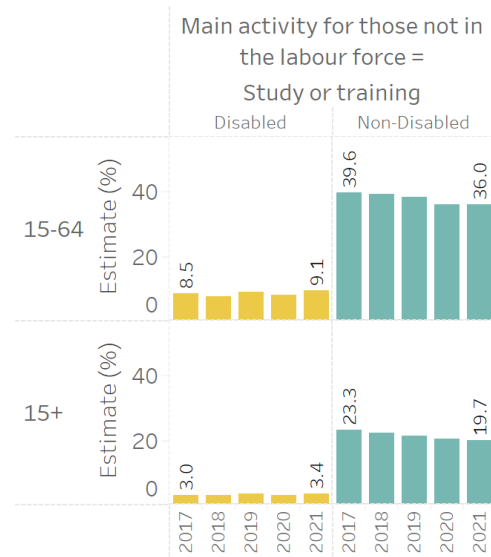
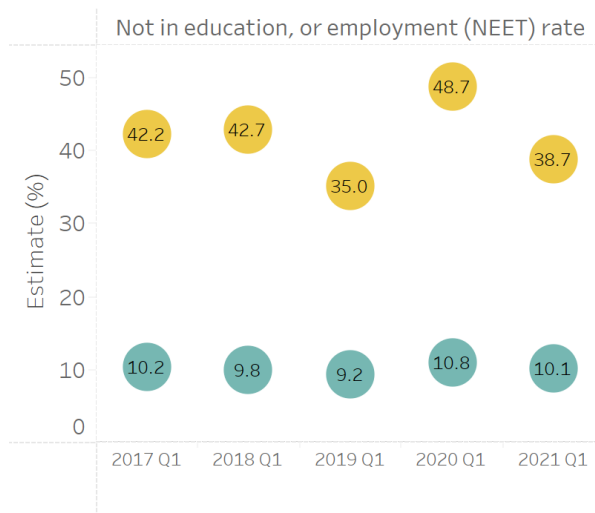
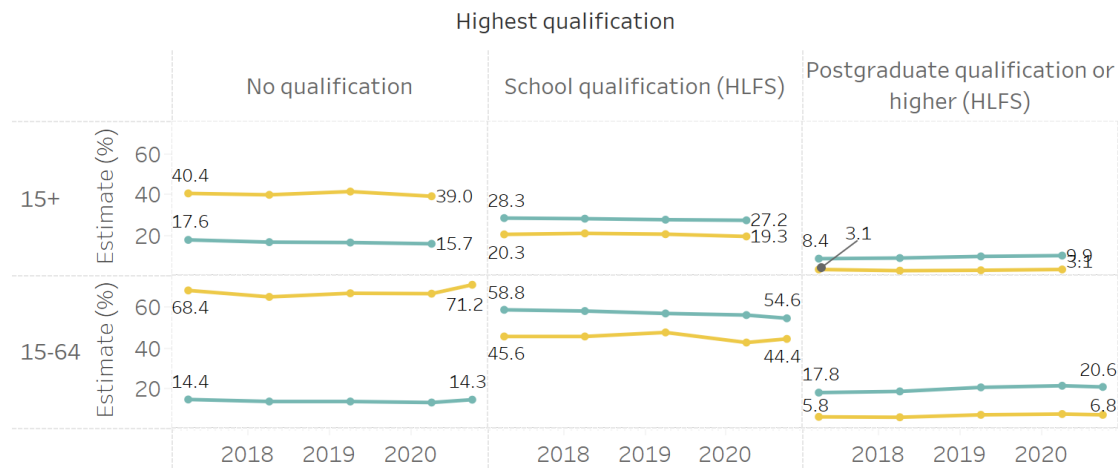
No suitable data is currently available to demonstrate change over time for the following key outcome areas:

1.1 Disabled people and their whānau are welcomed at the education setting of their choice.

1.2 Disabled people participate and are included in the entire education system and extra-curricular activities.

1.3 Disabled people have positive experiences in education.

1.4 Disabled people achieve and progress in education.



Disability status
■ Disabled
■ Non-Disabled

Outcome Two: Employment and economic security

We have security in our economic situation and can achieve our full potential

Ministry of Social Development (Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora)

Disability Employment Action Plan

Working Matters, the Disability Employment Action Plan (Action Plan) was launched in August 2020 to help ensure disabled people and people with health conditions have an equal opportunity to access quality employment.

This Action Plan is one of several plans that support the Government's Employment Strategy to create a more productive, sustainable, and inclusive labour market. The Action Plan provides guidance for all government agencies and industries (for example industry specific employers, trainers, regulators and unions) currently working on employment initiatives, including COVID-19 economic recovery initiatives.

Progress on the Action Plan is reported to the Employment, Education and Training (EET) Ministers' Group in a dashboard format every six months. The Action Plan is a living document, and the dashboard provides an opportunity to identify new actions that help achieve the objectives, as well as providing a regular review of progress. This responsive approach to monitoring allows agency commitments to evolve as opportunities arise across different government work programmes. The value of the Action Plan as a living document has been emphasised through the ongoing context of COVID-19, its impact upon the labour market and the Government's response.

Improving disability data collection for the dashboard remains a priority as more detailed data on the participation of disabled

people in employment and in employment related services is key to improve the targeting of support and for measuring progress on the Government's employment action plans. In particular, it is important to improve agencies' capacity to disaggregate data on disabled Māori - tāngata whaikaha, disabled Pacific people, disabled wāhine and for different impairment types including mental health. The cross-agency group established under the Disability Action Plan supports this work.

There are 24 initial actions in the Action Plan identified for completion between 2020-2022 by various responsible agencies (including MSD, Education, TEC, MBIE, Health, and the Public Service Commission).

Highlights of MSD activity progressing the Disability Employment Action Plan include:

- Oranga Mahi is a programme that offers cross-agency trials and services delivered in partnership with Primary Health Organisations, District Health Boards and Community Providers. In 2021, Oranga Mahi expanded to provide greater access to integrated employment and health services to support disabled people (and people with health conditions) to improve their wellbeing and take steps towards sustainable employment.
 - This includes the expansion of Here Toitū in several regions - Auckland, Mid-Central, and Canterbury. Here Toitū is a dedicated team support service that is led by Kaimanaki (health navigators), with health practitioners supporting health outcomes, and a dedicated MSD Case Manager providing financial and employment support.
 - A new "Responding Early" component of the service was introduced in the Mid-Central region to support people who already have a job but are at risk of losing it because of a health condition or disability. The service aims to help these people manage their health and wellbeing so they can continue working and keep their job. MSD will be

expanding these Responding Early service arms to the Auckland and Canterbury regions.

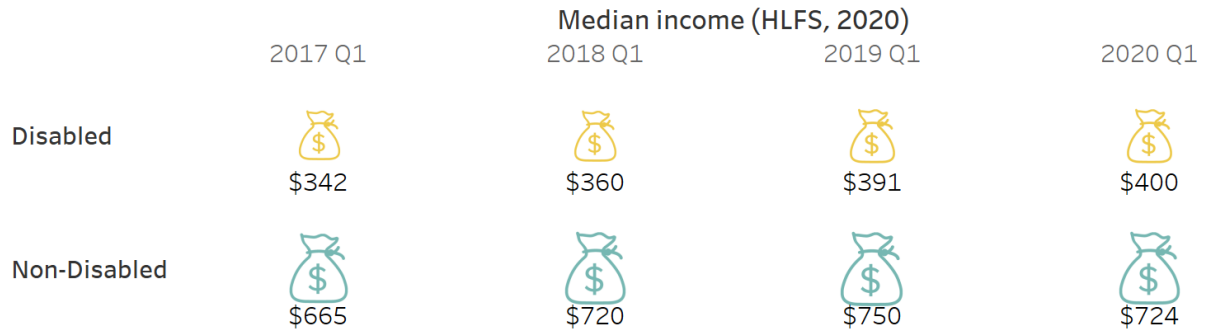
- Access to career transition support for disabled people has been improved by expanding MSD's mainstream paid internships. This service assists with transitions from tertiary education and training in diverse sectors by providing supported employment for disabled people who may otherwise find it hard to obtain a job in the open market.
- Specialist disability employment services were expanded in Budget 2020 and have continued to develop in 2021. These services have supported many disabled people through the extra challenges posed by COVID-19 by keeping people in work who may have otherwise lost work, and placing some disabled people into essential work roles. The pilot programme providing access to employment services for young disabled people in schools has also progressed in five contracted regions in 2021. This initiative provides greater career building support and improves transition pathways for young disabled people.
- In addition to the expansion of disability specific services, the significant expansion of broader employment services is more inclusive of disabled people. In particular, the expansion of flexi-wage includes access for disabled people and people with health conditions and allows placement in part-time work.

Indicators

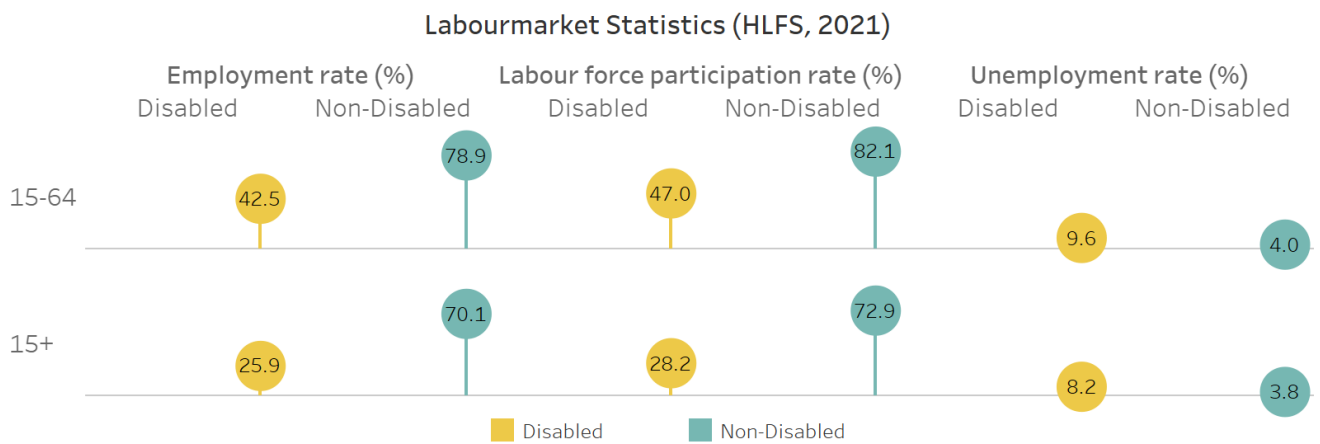
ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

Inequality in **employment** and **economic security outcomes** for disabled people

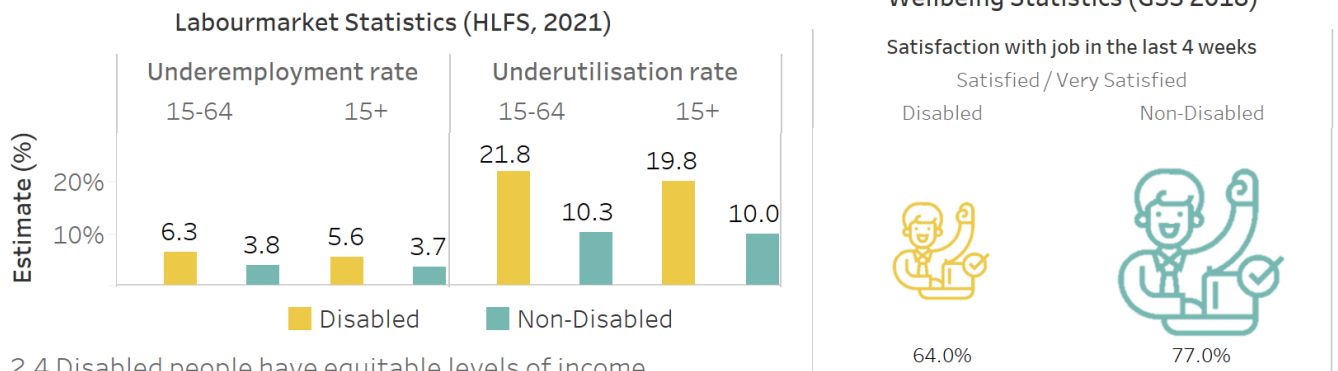
2.1 Disabled people and their whānau have economic security.



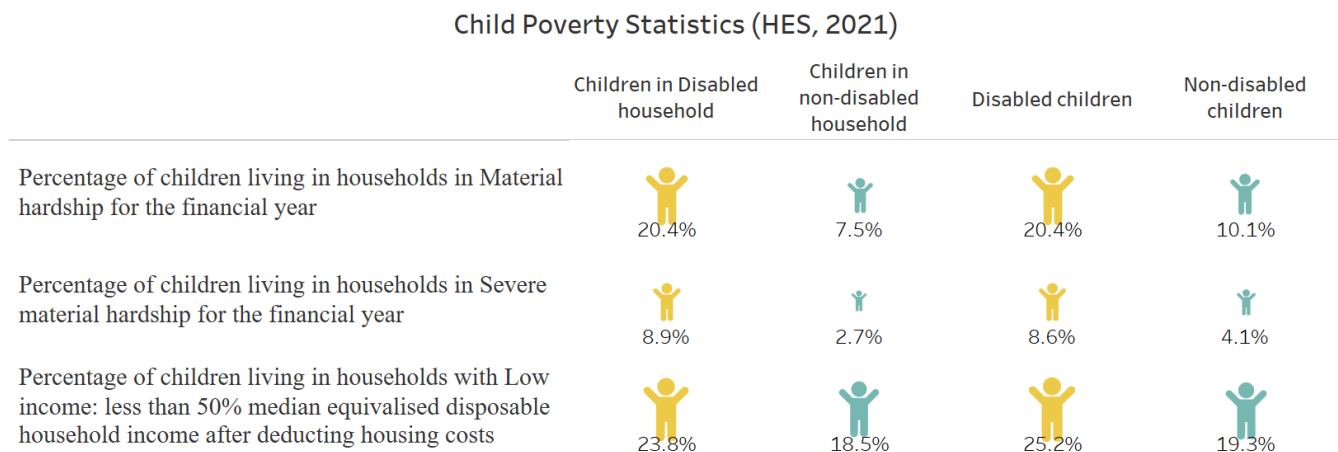
2.2 Disabled people have equitable access to employment.



2.3 Disabled people are satisfied with their employment situation.

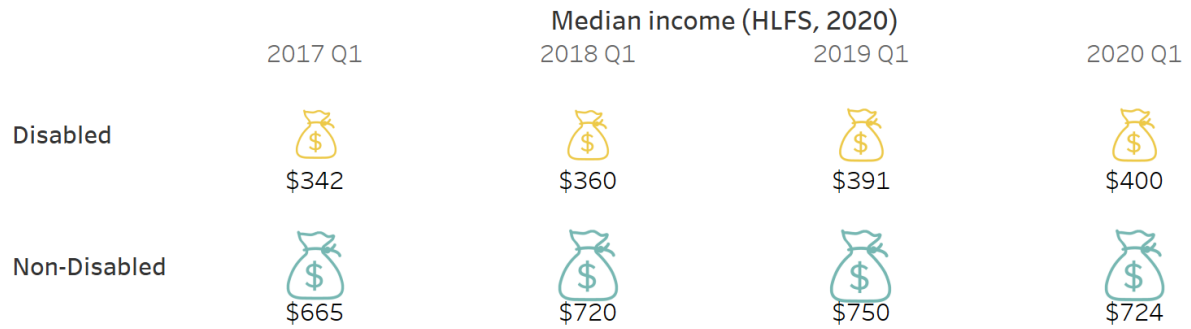


2.4 Disabled people have equitable levels of income.

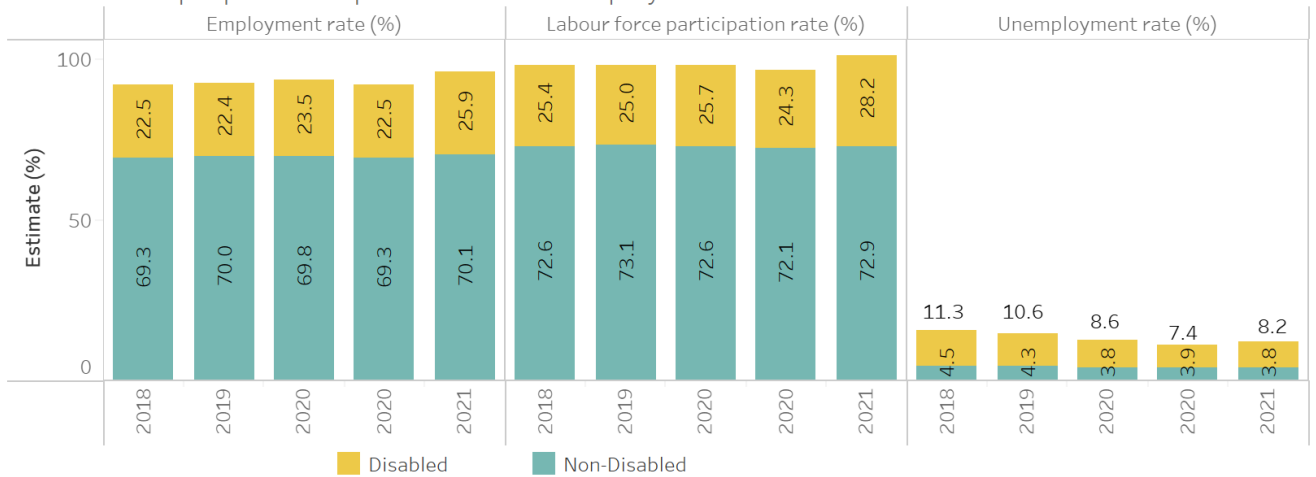


Progress in **employment** and **economic security outcomes** for disabled people

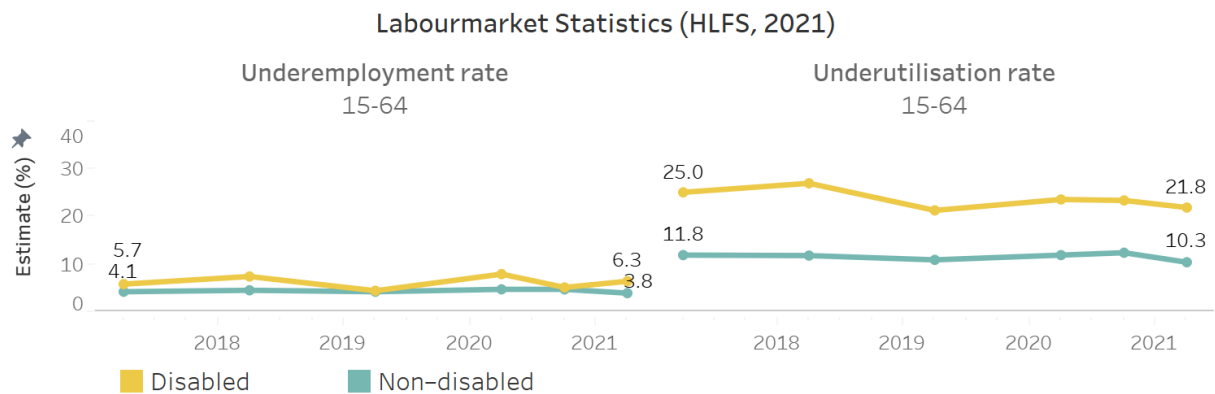
2.1 Disabled people and their whānau have economic security.



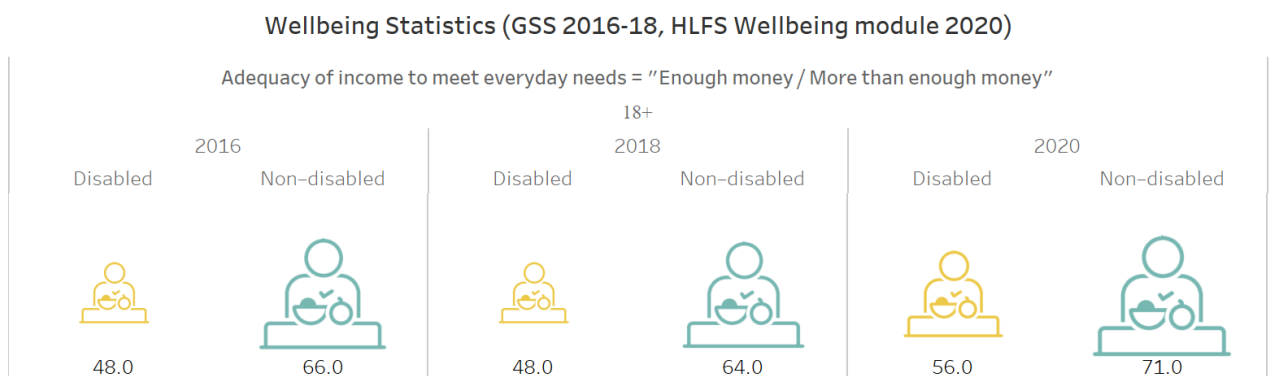
2.2 Disabled people have equitable access to employment.



2.3 Disabled people are satisfied with their employment situation.



2.4 Disabled people have equitable levels of income.



Outcome three: Health and wellbeing

We have the highest attainable standards of health and wellbeing

Ministry of Health (Manatū Hauora)

COVID-19 psychosocial response

The Ministry of Health (MoH) released '*Kia Kaha, Kia Māia, Kia Ora Aotearoa: COVID-19 Psychosocial and Mental Wellbeing Plan*' in December 2020 to set the direction of the psychosocial COVID-19 response for the next 12–18 months. The psychosocial response was supported by Government investment of \$15 million to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. This investment supported mental wellbeing campaigns and targeted messaging, as well as telehealth and digital supports.

In September 2021, '*Kia Manawanui: Long-term pathway to mental wellbeing*' was released. This resource builds on *Kia Kaha* and sets the direction for transforming New Zealand's approach to mental wellbeing over the next 10 years. *Kia Manawanui* recognises that disabled people experience relatively poor outcomes in relation to the social and economic determinants of mental wellbeing, and are more likely to experience stigma, prejudice, and abuse.

Individualised Funding and Carer Support

During the March 2020 COVID-19 lockdown, MoH implemented flexibility for two disability support services - Individualised Funding⁹ and Carer Support¹⁰ to ensure disabled people had choice, control and continuity of support to enable equitable

⁹ Individualised Funding is a mechanism that allows disabled people to manage the Home and Community Support Services they are allocated.

¹⁰ Carer Support is a subsidy to give family members who are full-time carers of disabled people a break from their caring responsibilities.

public health outcomes, and to ensure that people could access support in a way that worked for them.

From 1 March 2021, Carer Support and Individualised Funding flexibility was made permanent for MoH-funded disability support clients.

Mental Health Act repeal and replacement work

He Ara Oranga: Report of the Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction recommended full repeal and replacement of the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992.

A multi-year work programme has commenced to repeal and replace the Mental Health Act with a more modern, fit-for-purpose legislative framework. MoH has progressed immediate, short-term improvements under the current legislation including releasing new guidelines to improve people's experiences under the current Act and making amendments to the Act to eliminate indefinite treatment orders, better protect people's rights and improve safety, while also progressing longer-term work to prepare for repeal and replacement. Public consultation on the discussion document [Transforming Our Mental Health Law](#), commenced in October 2021.

Reduce and eliminate restrictive practices, including seclusion and restraint

Public consultation on [Transforming Our Mental Health Law](#) includes questions about the use or elimination of, restrictive practices including seclusion and restraint to inform the development of new legislation to replace the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992.

In February 2022, the updated Ngā Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standard NZS 8134:2021 will come into effect. It will replace the Health and Disability Services Standards (NZS 8134:2008). The Ngā Paerewa Standard reflects the shift towards

more person- and whānau-centred health and disability services. People are empowered to make decisions about their own care and support to achieve their goals, with a stronger focus on outcomes for people receiving support.

While new legislation is being consulted on and developed, MoH is developing guidelines to replace the *Seclusion under the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992*. The focus of the new guidelines will be on reducing and eliminating seclusion and restraint, as well as the safe use of these practices when they cannot be avoided. Achieving equity and a person-centred approach are central to the project.

The guidelines will align with the Ngā Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standard and will be expanded to include restraint in addition to seclusion. National reporting on the use of restraint in mental health facilities was introduced in 2020 to strengthen monitoring and transparency in the use of this restrictive practice.

Guidelines regarding the use of seclusion under the Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care & Rehabilitation) Act 2003 were also updated in 2020. The focus of the guidelines has been to reduce the use of seclusion whilst ensuring safe practice when seclusion cannot be avoided.

Sport New Zealand (Ihi Aotearoa)

Sport New Zealand Disability Plan

The delivery of the Sport NZ Disability Plan has progressed well in 2021, following the scoping project of 2020, where three opportunities for improvement were identified:

- **Leadership and coordination in the play active recreation and sport sector** - Sport NZ planned to host an inaugural Disability Hui, “Ko au, ko koe, ko tatou” - “I am you, you are me, this is us – together we connect”. Unfortunately this hui has been postponed to February 2022 due to COVID-19

disruptions. To encourage and maintain connection in the sector, an online virtual connect was hosted on 8 November, for people and organisations working with or planning to work with disabled tamariki and rangatahi in play, active recreation and sport. This was attended by over 100 people and contributions from the connect will be a key feature in shaping the content of the February hui.

- **Gaps in participation provision** – In March 2021, the Sport NZ Board announced investment of \$5.7m to ensure disabled tamariki and rangatahi can participate in quality and equitable play, active recreation, and sport of their choice. \$2.1m was allocated to ParaFeds, D-Sport and National Disability Sports Organisations and the other \$3.6m applied to a contestable fund. Funding decisions from this process will be announced in December 2021.
- **Opportunities/duplication in participation opportunities**
 - Sport NZ developed partnership initiatives with most of their partners for the next three years. Sport NZ have taken this opportunity to promote the importance of working with disabled tamariki and rangatahi. Through the development of partnership and other initiatives through the new \$5.7m investment Sport NZ are ensuring that they can create opportunities and reduce duplication.

In addition to the Disability Hui and additional investment, Sport NZ is ensuring that their programmes and initiatives are catering for the needs of disabled tamariki and rangatahi. As an example, the Play and Healthy Active Learning workforces, both within Sport NZ and the community, have embraced the concepts of inclusion and universal design to ensure disabled tamariki and rangatahi are truly involved in play, active recreation and sport.

Office for Seniors (Te Tari Kaumātua)

Better Later Life - He Oranga Kaumātua

As age increases, so does the likelihood of living with a long-term health condition, or a disability requiring ongoing support. The 2013 Disability Survey showed that people aged 65 or over were much more likely to be disabled (59 percent) than adults under 65 years (21 percent) or children under 15 years (11 percent).

Better Later Life - He Oranga Kaumātua is the Government's strategy, published in November 2019, for ensuring New Zealanders can lead valued, connected and fulfilling lives as they age.

The Action Plan He Mahere Hohenga setting out the Government's priorities for delivering the *Better Later Life - He Oranga Kaumātua* strategy over the next three years, through to 2024, was launched on 30 September 2021.

The three priority areas in the Action Plan He Mahere Hohenga are:

- **Employment** – supporting older workers to use their skills and experience, and facilitating the development of a resilient, multigenerational workforce.
- **Housing** – providing a wide range of safe, secure and affordable housing options that meet the needs of older people.
- **Digital inclusion** – ensuring older people have the chance to embrace technology as the world moves increasingly online and to make sure those who are not online are not left behind and can easily fulfil their day-to-day needs.

The reforms of the health and disability system that are underway will also provide opportunities to address some of the issues older people face.

In February 2020, the Office for Seniors developed indicators to track Government's progress against Strategy outcomes and published a baseline that it will report against. These outcome indicators will be updated in 2022.

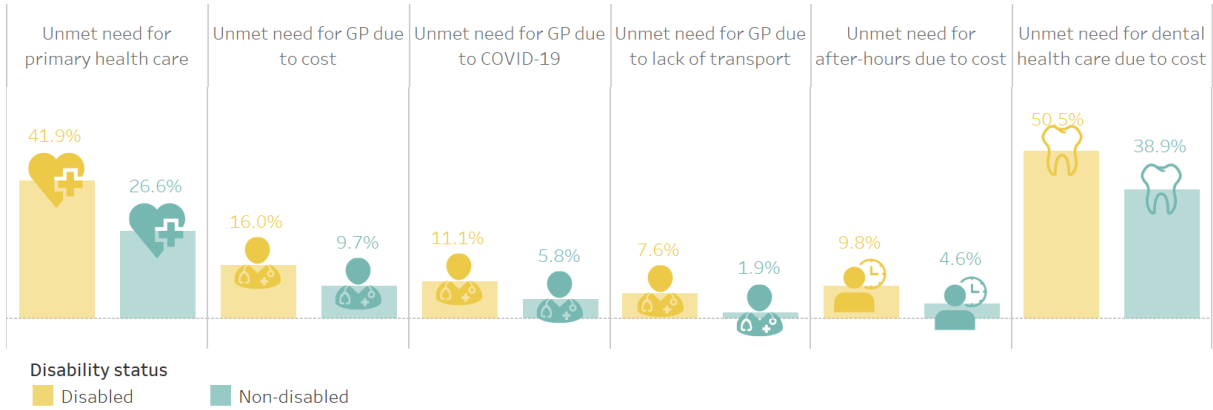
Indicators

ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

Inequality in Health and wellbeing outcomes for disabled people

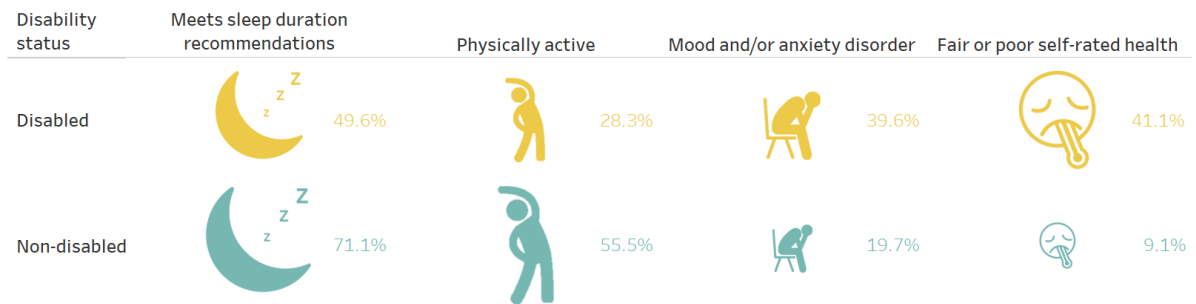
3.1 Disabled people have equitable access to quality, inclusive and culturally responsive health services and information.

Unmet healthcare needs (NZ Health Survey, 2020/21)



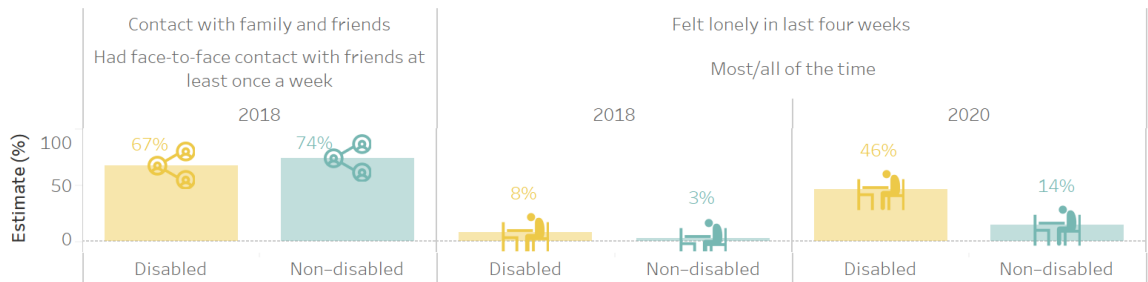
3.2 Disabled people have equitable physical and mental health outcomes.

Physical and mental health outcomes by disability (NZ Health Survey, 2020/21)



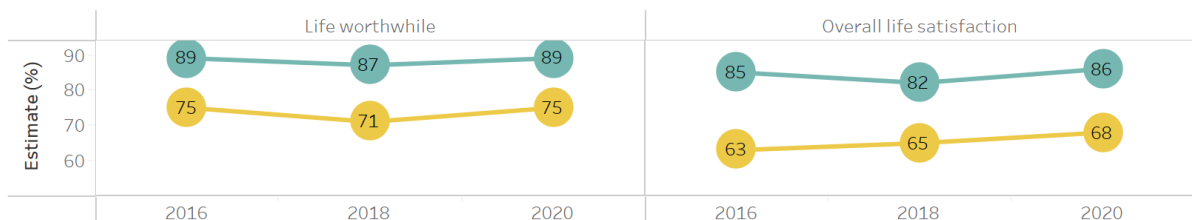
3.3 Disabled people have meaningful relationships in their lives.

Contact with family and friends and Loneliness (GSS, 2018; HLFS Wellbeing module, 2020)



3.4 Disabled people are satisfied with their lives.

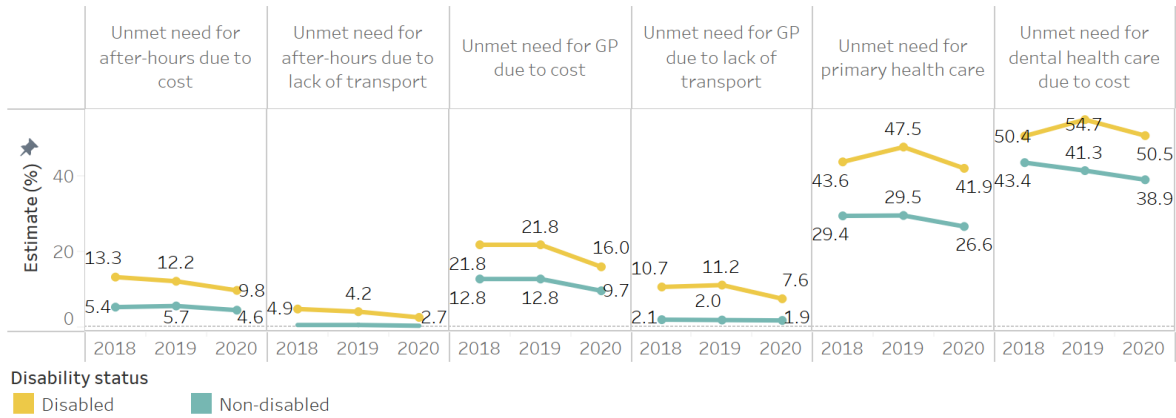
(GSS 2016,2018; HLFS 2020)



Progress in Health and wellbeing outcomes for disabled people

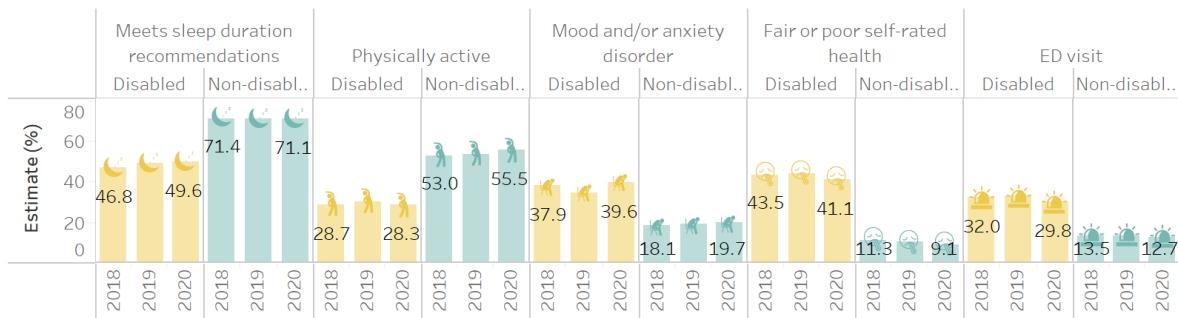
3.1 Disabled people have equitable access to quality, inclusive and culturally responsive health services and information.

Unmet healthcare needs (NZ Health Survey, 2020/21)



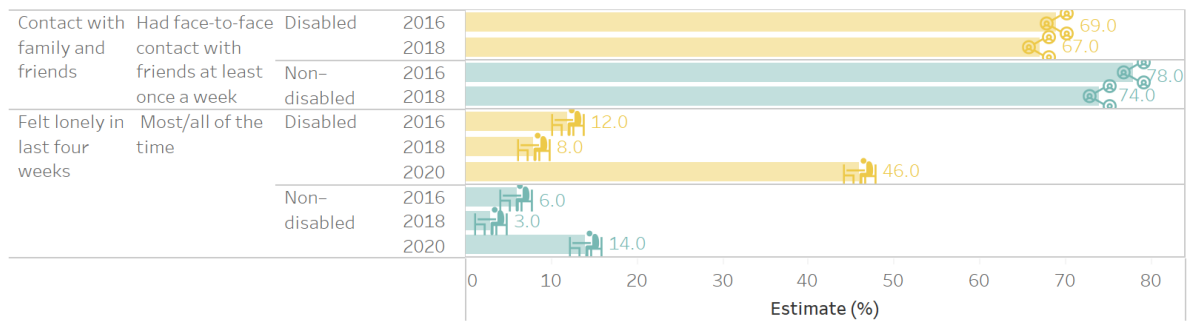
3.2 Disabled people have equitable physical and mental health outcomes.

Physical and mental health outcomes by disability (NZ Health Survey, 2020/21)



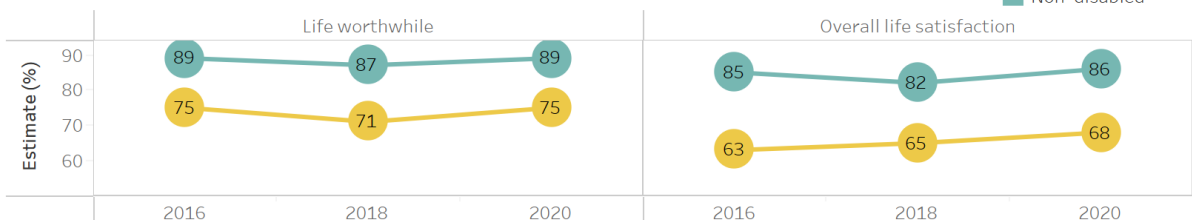
3.3 Disabled people have meaningful relationships in their lives.

Contact with family and friends and Loneliness (GSS, 2018; HLFS Wellbeing module, 2020)



3.4 Disabled people are satisfied with their lives.

(GSS 2016, 2018; HLFS 2020)



Outcome four: Rights protection and justice

Our rights are protected, we feel safe, understood and are treated fairly and equitably by the justice system

Department of Corrections (Ara Poutama Aotearoa)

While COVID-19 restrictions impacted the work programme, Ara Poutama is expecting to release its own Disability Action Plan in 2022. The Plan will reflect the intent of the Hōkai Rangi Strategy and align with the NZ Disability Strategy and the Disability Action Plan 2019-2023. This plan will give a voice to disabled people in Ara Poutama Aotearoa's care, their whānau and to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The plan sets the strategic direction for achieving pae ora (healthy futures) for disabled people in Ara Poutama's care, as it is important we have a plan that delivers on disabled people's needs in the unique environment of Corrections.

Improving data

In April 2021, Ara Poutama introduced the Washington Group Short Set (WGSS) questions into an initial health assessment for every person coming into prison. Care and support are then triaged based on a person's individual needs. The first dataset from April to September 2021, identified 24% of the new prison population reported at least one functional difficulty. Of this data, 52% identified as Māori, 6% Pacific, and 42% non-Māori/non-Pacific.

In 2022, Ara Poutama aims to continue to improve disability data collection. This will help identify and understand how they can improve disability services, with a key focus on achieving equity for tāngata whaikaha in their care.

In response to COVID-19, Ara Poutama developed a Vulnerability Dashboard as a tool for identifying people in their care who are

greater at risk should they contract COVID-19. Regular vulnerability data reporting continues to inform their response.

Improve accessibility and ensure services are accessible and understood

Ara Poutama continues to support the Ministry of Justice work programme to improve accessibility and ensure services are accessible and understood. This includes ensuring all COVID-19 information for people in prison is presented in a format appropriate for all levels of literacy.

Ara Poutama is working to make clear face masks (compliant with COVID-19 safety standards) available to support people who have a hearing impairment and need to lip read. Initially, clear face masks will be used by psychology and programme facilitators to support hearing and understanding and safe face-to-face programme delivery.

Ministry of Justice (Te Tāhū o te Ture)

Te Tāhū o te Ture is committed to continuing to create a justice system that is fully accessible to all. Several initiatives began in 2020/21, that improve the accessibility of courts and justice services. These include:

- Te Ao Mārama, a judicially led programme to improve access to justice in the District Court and ensure court services are people-centred and equitable.
- Work on the Communication Assistance Quality Framework, to support disabled people to participate effectively in court proceedings, with guidance for lawyers on identifying relevant clients and the engagement process. The Ministry is developing online training modules to support communication assistants gain knowledge of the court process and expectations of professional conduct. There will be a focus on ensuring court operations act in accordance with the changes.

- Investigating the impacts of sensory issues, including background noise, in court.
- Engaging with the disabled community on progressing innovative courthouse design.

Te Tāhū o te Ture is working to ensure it engages effectively with the disabled community on core legislative reform processes. Targeted engagement on the current adoption law reform, incitement of hatred review and review of the Māori electoral option have included specific initiatives to ensure disabled people are included. These include the provision of alternate formats for consultation materials and specific engagement with DPOs.

Te Tāhū o te Ture has a core stewardship role in collecting data and evidence related to the experiences of disabled people interacting with the justice system. The Ministry is actively working to improve collection of this data in line with Government obligations under UNCRPD. In 2021/22, the Ministry's responsible data campaign will launch. It will bring a holistic approach to data design and disposal, including how the Ministry ensures data supports the needs of disabled people. The New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey is also an important source of data related to disabled people's experiences of crime and victimisation.

Joint Venture

Eliminating family violence and sexual violence

In June 2021, the Joint Venture engaged widely with communities on development of the National Strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence. This included wide engagement with disabled people.

The Strategy and an accompanying action plan are being published in early December 2021. A suite of papers will be published alongside the Strategy which summarise the key issues, needs and aspirations of different communities including a paper

outlining what disabled people told the Joint Venture was needed from the Strategy. There will be a comprehensive set of actions which drive the Joint Ventures initial steps over the next two years. This includes actions that will support strengthening, healing, and response for disabled people and tāngata whaikaha. This will include actions to respond to calls from tāngata whenua for resources and decision-making powers, as promised under Te Tiriti, to be the leaders in designing and implementing actions and change.

In Budget 2019, the Government committed \$2 million in funding over two years to enable understanding of violence prevention needs and development of future violence prevention programmes in rainbow, disabled, older people, and ethnic communities. In November 2021, the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence and Sexual Violence announced that funding totalling \$1.578 million from this funding would be allocated to support a range of community-led violence prevention initiatives. This includes \$350,000 for expanding the Safeguarding Adults From Abuse (SAFA) response in the Waitematā to safeguard adults at risk, including disabled people. This 12-month project will provide insights for the wider roll-out of the SAFA response.

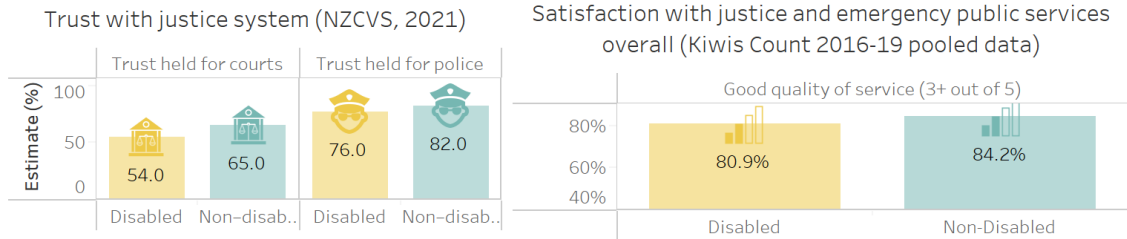
Looking forward to 2022 the Joint Venture will develop enduring relationships with key groups in the Family Violence and Sexual Violence (FVSV) system, including disabled people, that enable collective implementation and monitoring of the National Strategy and Action Plan. This will include an annual hui in June/July 2022 for tāngata whenua, communities, specialist sectors and government to come together. The annual hui will be an opportunity to take stock of what has been learnt and achieved over the previous months and look ahead to create the milestones and action plans for the following 12 months.

Indicators

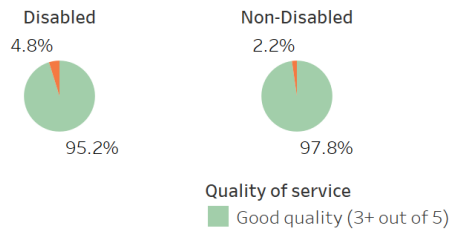
ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

Inequality in Rights, Protection and Justice for disabled people

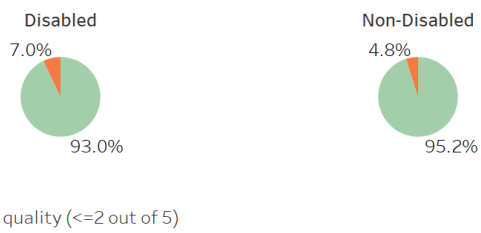
4.1 Disabled people have the support and accommodations needed when interacting with the justice system.



Quality of service when having used 111

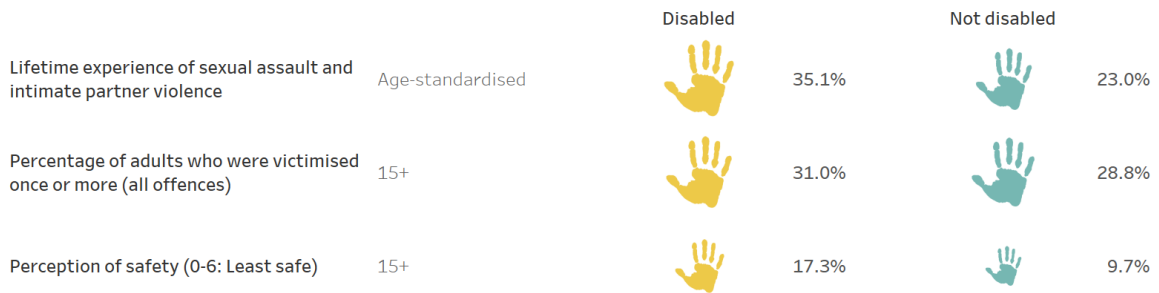


Quality of service during contact with police (excluding 111)



4.2 Disabled people feel safe in their homes and communities and are safe from violence and abuse.

Experience of victimisation & Perception of safety (NZCVS 2021)

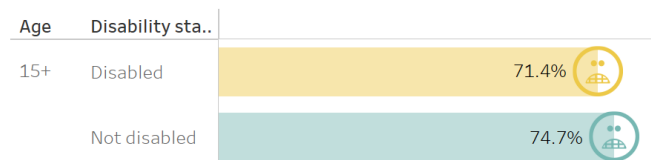


Feelings of safety and experience of discrimination (HLFS, 2020)



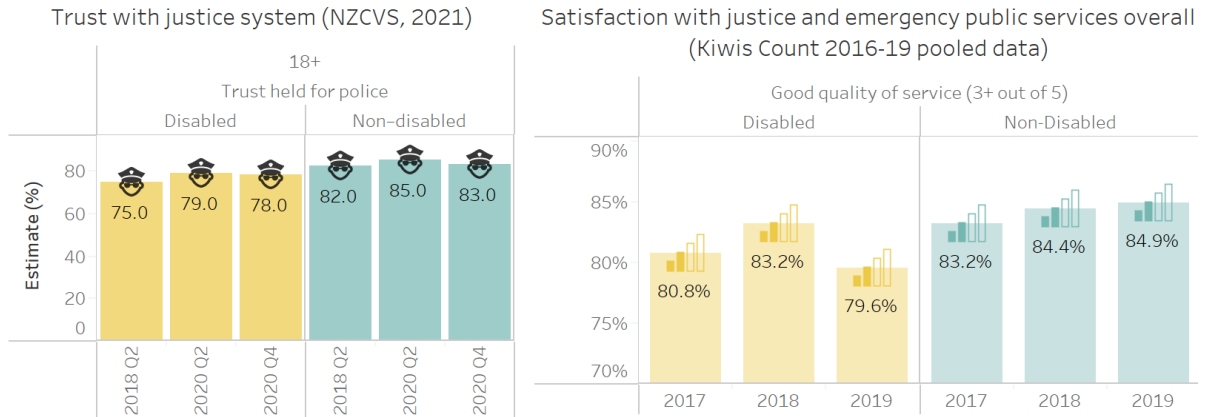
Non-reporting to Police (NZCVS, 2020)

4.3 Disabled people's right to make their own decisions is upheld and they are supported if required.



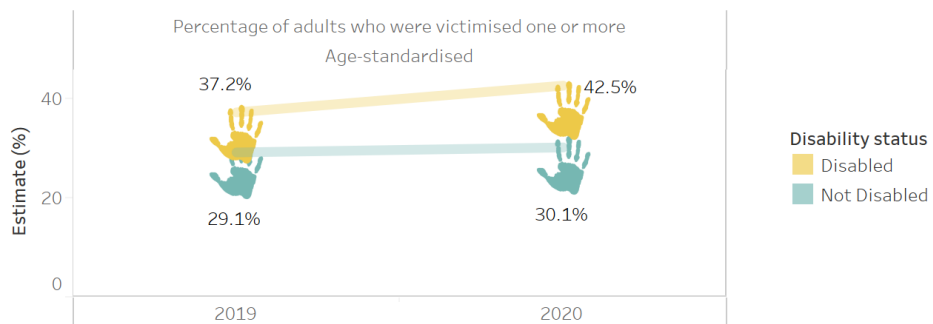
Progress in Rights, Protection and Justice for disabled people

4.1 Disabled people have the support and accommodations needed when interacting with the justice system.

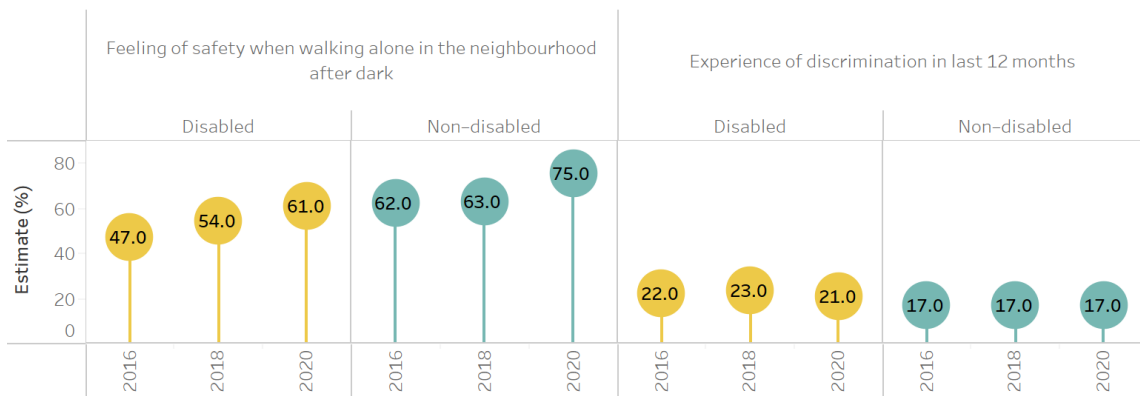


4.2 Disabled people feel safe in their homes and communities and are safe from violence and abuse.

Experience of victimisation & Perception of safety (NZCVS 2021)



Feelings of safety and experience of discrimination (HLFS, 2020)



4.3 Disabled people's right to make their own decisions is upheld and they are supported if required.

No suitable data currently available

Outcome five: Accessibility

We access all places, services and information with ease and dignity

Ministry of Social Development (Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora)

The Accessibility Charter

The public sector is taking a leadership role in recognising accessibility as an enabler of inclusion with all government agencies having now signed the Accessibility Charter¹¹. Signing the Charter indicates agencies are committed to ensuring that all information intended for the public is accessible to everyone, and that everyone can interact with government services in a way that meets their individual needs and promotes their independence and dignity. The Ministry of Social Development continues to work with Local Government and DHBs to encourage them to sign the Accessibility Charter.

Ensuring accessibility of messages has remained critical during the COVID-19 response and MSD has continued to work with agencies and Disabled People's Organisations to develop accessible messages in alternate formats.

Agencies that have signed during the last year have included Canterbury District Health Board, Health Quality & Safety Commission, Office of the Clerk, Parliamentary Services, and the Earthquake Commission.

A monthly accessibility training programme continues to support the Accessibility Guide.

¹¹ <https://www.odi.govt.nz/guidance-and-resources/the-accessibility-charter/>

Making Aotearoa accessible

In October 2021, Cabinet agreed to introduce a new legislative framework to accelerate accessibility. The framework is intended to support New Zealand to become more accessible, through taking a progressive and consistent approach to identifying, preventing, and removing barriers to participation faced by disabled people and others with access needs.

The new framework will be supported by enabling legislation, to be introduced in July 2022, and will reflect a partnership with disabled people as a key element. The framework will also improve Ministerial leadership on accessibility, particularly where there are cross-portfolio barriers to participation, and increased coordination on accessibility through clearer leadership within the public service.

The framework will be supported by a new Independent Accessibility Governance Board (formal name to be agreed) that will be led by and represent disabled people. The Board will set the strategic direction on accessibility and draw on the lived experiences of disabled people to identify and advise on systemic barriers.

More detailed design work on how to implement the new framework is now underway and will cover aspects such as how to give full effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and where this should be reinforced in the legislation. Other issues to be considered include the name, form and function of the Accessibility Governance Board, and the purpose and principles of the new system. Officials are now beginning consultation with a broad range of stakeholders on these topics, including with disability organisations, Māori groups and organisations, older people's organisations, whānau and carers, youth and Pacific people's groups.

Te Manatū Waka (Ministry of Transport) and Waka Kotahi (New Zealand Transport Authority)

Total Mobility

Te Manatū Waka has initiated scoping the review of the Total Mobility scheme policy. This is in process from the last quarter of 2021 through to the first quarter of 2022. The scope preparation is informed in part by the preliminary findings set out in the draft report contracted by Waka Kotahi, *'Understanding the transport experiences of disabled people, including the Total Mobility scheme'*.

Waka Kotahi has commissioned research looking at the transport experiences of disabled people. While the research was designed to support the Total Mobility work, the scope was broader and disabled people's perspectives will provide valuable insights in the management and mitigation of operational transport matters under present policy.

In response to the second national Alert Level 4 lockdown, Waka Kotahi added a module to the project looking at the individual transport experiences of people with a disability in relation to Covid-19. This research involved both an online survey and follow-up interviews. The survey was distributed via disability sector groups. The research report is due for completion by the end of 2021 with an estimated publication date of March 2022.

Accessible Streets

The Accessible Streets regulatory package proposes several new rules to increase the safety and accessibility for all users of footpaths and shared paths, including regulating the use of micro-mobility devices such as e-scooters.

During 2021, Waka Kotahi has worked with the disability sector to create a disability impact assessment, which is due for final review in the coming months.

The feedback from the disability impact assessment helped to shape the advice provided to the Minister of Transport in September 2021.

Te Manatū Waka and Waka Kotahi are working to prepare the package for Cabinet consideration in early 2022. Once decisions have been made, there will be a Minister of Transport announcement and the summary of submissions and disability impact assessment will be made available in accessible formats.

Pedestrian Network Guidance

Waka Kotahi has led a project to develop national Pedestrian Network Guidance. The guidance was developed collaboratively with key stakeholders and was released in November 2021 to replace the Pedestrian Planning and Design Guide. It embeds RTS14¹² and introduces a key pedestrian design principle to support accessibility of 'Safe, Obvious, and Step-free'. This project has a dedicated 'inclusive access' reviewer who undertook lived experience research with the disability sector and who reviews all of the guidance from an inclusive access vantage. In 2022 Waka Kotahi will be focusing on filling in a few sections that do not have content released, consulting on the guidance and raising awareness of this guidance.

Public Transport Design Guidance

Waka Kotahi has been developing national Public Transport Design Guidance (PTDG) to promote best practice safe and user-centric public transport infrastructure. In April 2021, draft topics, including 'getting to and from public transport' were released online. Further work is underway to develop guidance for other topics including bus stop design and interchanges. It is expected that these topics will be released (with others) during 2022.

¹² Guidelines for facilities for blind and vision impaired pedestrians

Development of the PTDG has been collaborative with an industry Reference Group, and a Disability sector engagement session in May 2021 which included participation through a range of mediums. This project has a dedicated 'inclusive access' reviewer who undertook lived experience research with the disability sector and who reviews all of the guidance from an inclusive access vantage.

Requirements for Urban Buses (RUB) in New Zealand

The RUB has been reviewed and updated in conjunction with Auckland Transport, regional councils and disability advocacy groups. The review has resulted in a safer ramp gradient for wheelchair ramps, improved height of ticketing machines, improved swept paths for wheelchair users, increased numbers of wheelchair positions in priority areas, and more space for guide dogs.

Review of public-facing websites for accessibility and building accessibility into Waka Kotahi's business-as-usual processes

Waka Kotahi has provided accessibility testing guidance and remediation advice for the Auckland Light Rail, Right Car, and Clean Car Rebate websites, as well as tools for monitoring shift worker fatigue and collecting data on children's journeys to school. They have also provided advice on making bilingual content accessible for digital content and road signs.

In 2021, Waka Kotahi have been running accessibility training sessions. An accessibility testing framework has been established and they have recruited an Accessibility Quality Assurance test specialist. In 2022, Waka Kotahi will continue working to improve the accessibility of their documents.

Kāinga Ora and Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga)

Increasing public housing that meets universal design standards

Since January 2021, Kāinga Ora have established systems and processes to be able to report on their initial accessibility target of 'at least' 15 percent of public housing new builds meeting full universal design.

Kāinga Ora have commenced reporting progress against this initial target. They have also undertaken a comprehensive review of the definitions of 'full universal design' and 'accessible design' and published a revised set of performance requirements and design standards.

The current Kāinga Ora Accessibility policy is due for formal review in 2022. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development has signalled it will be at the table for these discussions particularly around universal design targets and understanding what similar policies/targets could mean for Community Housing Providers (non-Kāinga Ora Public Housing).

Meeting the individual needs of customers

As of June 2021, approximately 4,500 homes were modified to meet customers' needs. Kāinga Ora is continuing to survey its properties and work on its internal data systems to improve the information on its existing homes and their modification status. They have gathered further information from their Retrofit programme to inform their understanding of delivering universal design features into our existing homes. Kāinga Ora is also leading a joint piece of work with the Ministry of Health, ACC and the Ministry of Social Development on how to streamline and improve the existing housing modifications processes to ensure modifications occur more consistently, more equitably and more timely in manner.

Improving information about customers' needs and accessibility requirements

Kāinga Ora want to ensure all their customers can live in a community where they have access to the support services they need to live well and without barriers.

Kāinga Ora is rethinking how they care for customers and their whānau. Work is underway through the Customer Programme to re-design services and how they operate, to ensure customer need is met. This includes deepening understanding of customers and providing more holistic and personalised services to address specific whānau housing, personal support and accessibility needs. The proposed changes to the Operating Model and Service Delivery model will mean Kāinga Ora is able to spend more time with customers to build and sustain relationships and tailor services to meet customer need.

Kāinga Ora is developing a suite of disability responsiveness and awareness training modules for all their employees to work toward being more "accessibility confident" and responsive

Kāinga Ora has commissioned a 'cultural sensitivities in design' review. This review will look at Kāinga Ora's new build standards and design requirements from a Māori and Pacific cultural perspective to ensure they understand cultural considerations and/or impacts associated with accessibility. The review includes specific considerations relating to the lived experiences of tāngata whaikaha, Pacific disabled and/or Māori/Pacific people with accessibility needs.

In 2020, Kāinga Ora confirmed a new Partnership and Engagement Framework. This framework aims to ensure:

- Customer and stakeholder views are understood and considered when developing housing and urban development policies, proposals, and plans.

- Relationships are strengthened and enhanced between Kāinga Ora and Māori, communities, customers and stakeholders by ensuring they are informed about, participate and have their say on, matters that are important to them.
- Enduring partnerships are built and based on trust, respect, and reciprocity.
- The 'feedback loop' is closed by providing timely communication so people know when and how their contributions have been considered and how it has influenced decisions.

With this new framework underpinning their accessibility mahi, Kāinga Ora continue to be committed to work closely with accessibility stakeholders to keep them informed of activities to ensure good insight, understanding, and lived experiences inform ongoing accessibility work programmes.

Improve accessibility across the New Zealand housing system

The Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development (GPS-HUD) released in September 2021 outlines the government's long-term vision for housing and urban development in New Zealand. This document takes a multi-decade approach to help align the work of government agencies and the private sector, supporting the housing and urban development system to work toward realising an enduring set of outcomes.

GPS-HUD emphasises the importance of building houses in New Zealand that are resilient, healthy, universally designed, and accessible. One of the published performance priorities is to increase the supply of universally designed and accessible housing alongside monitoring the standards in universally designed homes. This is a key achievement for the accessibility workstream as it sets the expectation that stakeholders will work

together to deliver more universally designed homes that meet people's needs over their lifetime.

Government will work with disabled people, disability advocates, iwi and Māori, and the industry to increase the supply of universally designed and accessible housing. HUD will continue to work alongside the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and Kāinga Ora to shift regulatory levers in a way that is mindful of the challenges that disabled people in the housing system face.

Next steps

Within the next 12 months to June 2022, Kāinga Ora will be undertaking their first comprehensive review of the existing Accessibility Policy. This review will be based on data and evidence collected in response to the outcomes from the first iteration of the policy over the current term of the policy, with key recommendations being developed and new aspirational targets, goals and milestones being put forward for consideration by the Kāinga Ora Board. As with the first iteration of the policy, involvement and contribution from key disability stakeholder partners will be essential in producing a set of well researched and supported recommendations for the Board to consider. It is expected that this review will specifically incorporate the input and views of our customers with lived experience of disability. This direct customer input is inspired by and aligned with the disability sector mantra – “nothing about us, without us”.

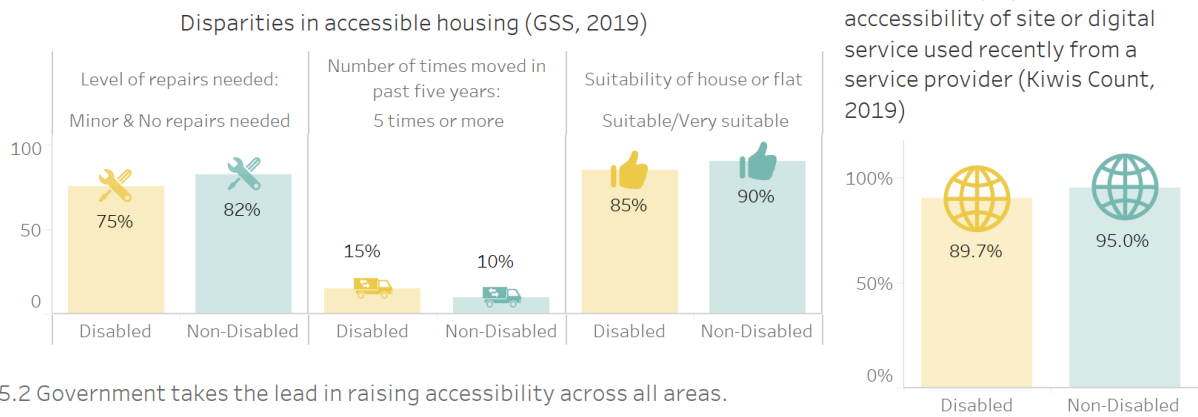
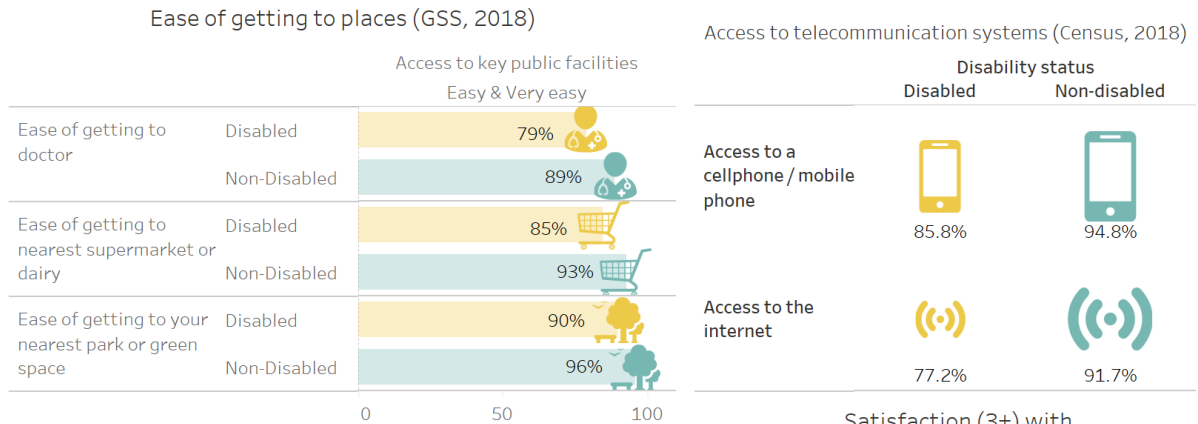
The next iteration of the Kāinga Ora Accessibility Policy is anticipated to be completed and published by mid-2022.

Indicators

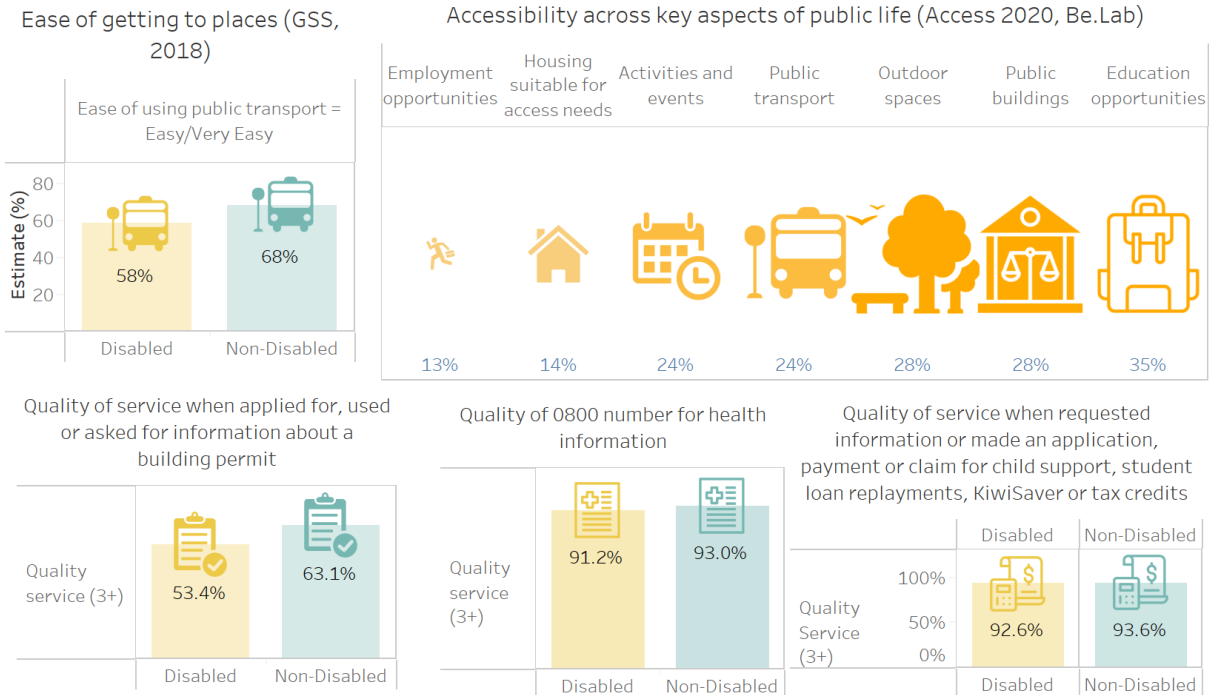
ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

Inequality in Accessibility for disabled people

5.1 Disabled people have equitable access to all places, services and information across New Zealand



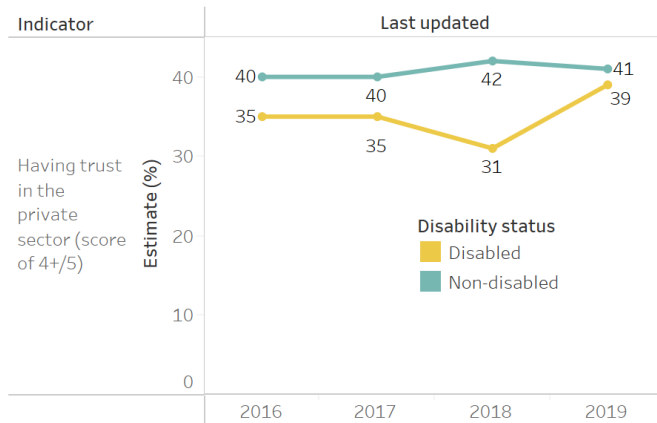
5.2 Government takes the lead in raising accessibility across all areas.



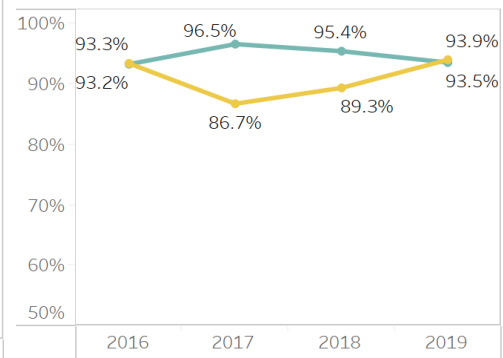
Progress in **Accessibility** for disabled people

5.1 Disabled people have equitable access to all places, services and information across New Zealand

Trust in the private sector (Kiwis Count Survey, 2016-2019)



Satisfaction (3+) with accessibility of site or digital service used recently from a service provider



5.2 Government takes the lead in raising accessibility across all areas.

No adequate data sources are currently available that track change over time for this outcome area

Outcome six: Attitudes

We are treated with dignity and respect

In developing the DAP, no specific actions or work programmes were identified or agreed to progress this outcome. The outcomes are seen as interconnected, and it was acknowledged that if the programmes of work achieve their intended outcome, a shift in attitudes will also be achieved.

Addressing attitudes is incorporated into a range of programmes, including, but not limited to:

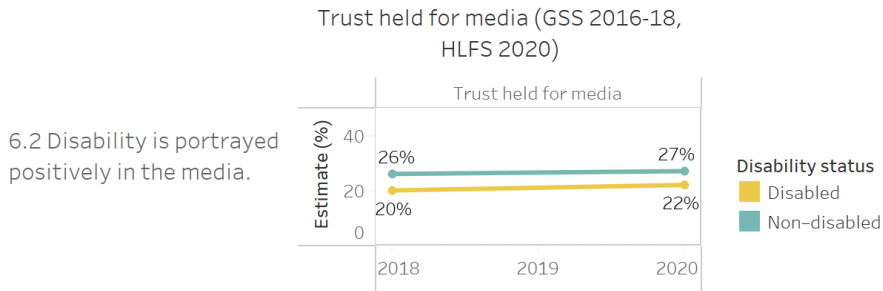
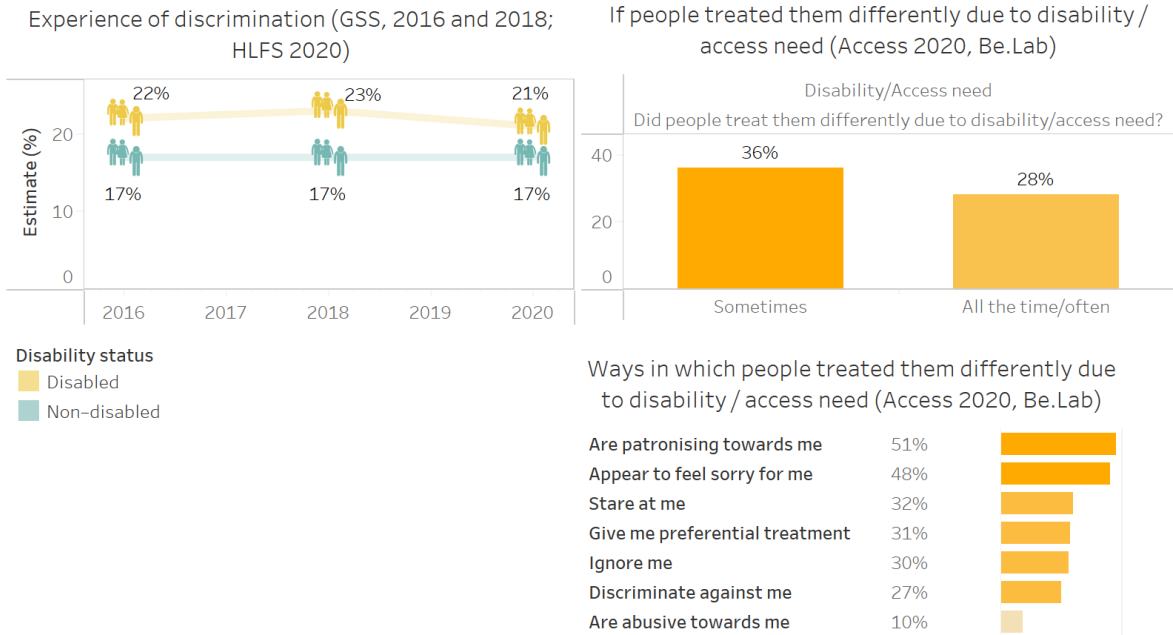
- improving access and accessibility in education
- improving employment outcomes
- participation in sports and recreation
- the awareness raising, education and training programmes to support improving accessibility.

Indicators

ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

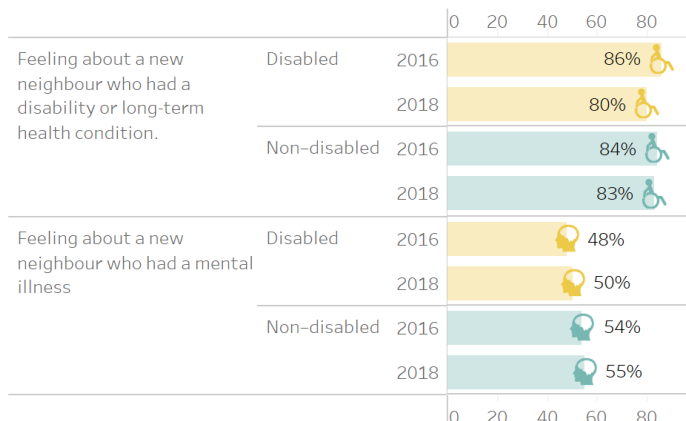
Inequality and Progress in Attitudes towards disabled people

6.1 Disabled people are treated with dignity and respect by everybody.

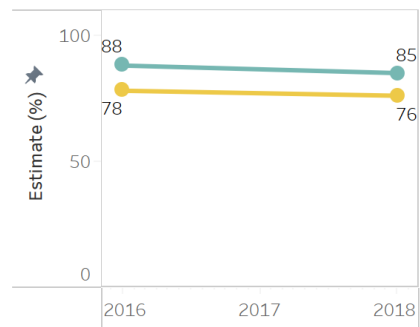


6.3 Disabled people are recognised as citizens in their own right.

Feeling about others with a disability / long term health condition / mental illness = comfortable/very comfortable (GSS, 2016;18)



Ability to express identity = Easy/Very Easy (GSS, 2016;18)



Outcome seven: Choice and control

We have choice and control over our lives

Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Development

In October, the Minister for Disability Issues and Minister of Health announced that a new Ministry for Disabled People will be established from 1 July 2022. The new Ministry will be a departmental agency hosted by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) which means MSD will provide corporate functions, but the Ministry will be operationally and functionally autonomous. The new Ministry will be responsible for driving improved whole-of-life outcomes for disabled people, and leading and coordinating cross-government strategic disability policy. Disability Support Services, currently administered by the Ministry of Health, will transfer to the new Ministry.

An Establishment Unit is being set up in the MSD to oversee the creation of the new Ministry. Governance arrangements for the Establishment Unit are being put in place. A key principle is that disabled people and tāngata and whānau whaikaha Māori are embedded at each level of governance and are actively involved in decision-making and oversight. The Ministry of Health is supporting this work.

A key function of the Establishment Unit will be to work in partnership with disability community representatives to consider governance arrangements for the new Ministry. Partnership with disabled people and whānau and the establishment of a disabled person and whānau-led governance structure has been identified as a key priority for the new Ministry.

Ministry of Health

Disability Support System Transformation

Alongside announcements on the new Ministry, Ministers announced the Enabling Good Lives (EGL) approach for Disability Support Services will be implemented nationally. Based on the EGL vision and principles, the EGL approach has been trialled in Christchurch, the Waikato and, most recently, MidCentral (Mana Whaikaha). The national implementation will ensure the continued transformation of the disability support system, in line with the EGL vision and principles, to improve the experience and outcomes disabled people and their whānau, families and āiga have with the disability system, to ensure greater choice and control over their own lives.

Disability support service functions, including the responsibility for the national implementation of the Enabling Good Lives approach, will transition from the Ministry of Health to the new Ministry for Disabled People when it is established.

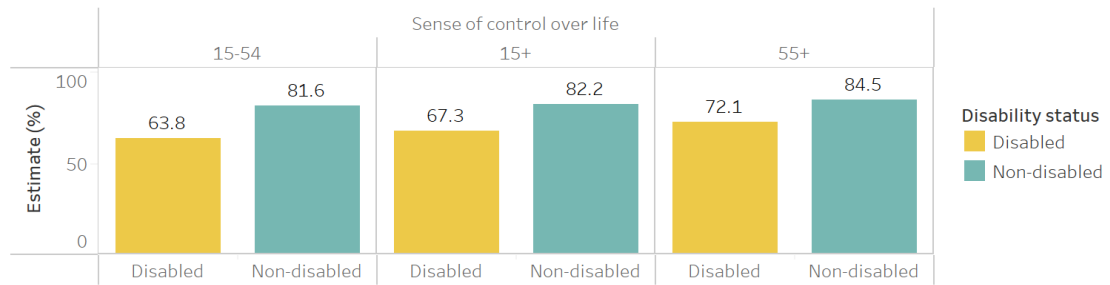
Indicators

ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

Inequality and progress in **Choice and control** for disabled people

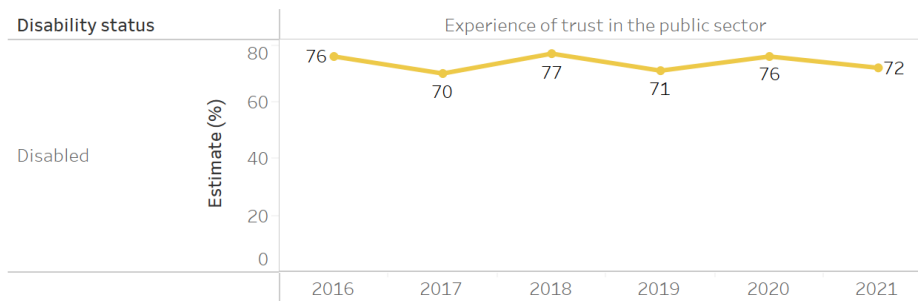
7.1 Disabled people have and maintain control over decisions about their lives.

Tangata whaikaha (Māori disabled) and sense of control over life (7+); Te Kupenga (2018)



7.2 Disabled people and their whānau have choice and control over government funded services that address their needs.

Experience of trust in the public sector (Kiwis Count, 2021) *proxy measure



7.3 Disabled people and their whānau have control over who provides services.

No suitable data available at this stage

Outcome eight: Leadership

We have great opportunities to demonstrate our leadership

Office for Disability Issues

Nominations Database

ODI administer a Nominations Database for people with lived experience of disability who are interested in governance positions on government boards, committees and advisory groups. The database aims to increase representation for disabled people on boards, and in turn increase leadership and governance skills among the disabled community. As at 1 November 2021, 178 disabled people were registered with the database.

ODI is part of a cross-agency group working towards improving diversity on government-appointed boards. There are four workstreams:

- building a value proposition for diversity on boards
- addressing the lack of data on diversity on state sector boards
- designing recruitment processes that are inclusive and transparent
- addressing the lack of accessible and targeted training and development.

Planned work to establish baseline data on the number of disabled board members appointed through the Appointments and Honours Committee has been delayed due to staffing pressures and is expected to be progressed in 2022.

New Zealand Sign Language

The 2018 Census confirmed that 22,986 people can use New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL). NZSL, one of New Zealand's official languages, remains a threatened language, with only 0.5 percent of the population using the language.

New Zealand Sign Language Board appointments this year see membership sitting at eight members, with three members identifying as Māori. This included the re-appointment of the Chair Rhian Yates and Dr David McKee as a DPO member who brings significant NZSL linguistic knowledge, a position that was vacant for a year.

Several key strategic work programmes have been progressed this year including Māori engagement and development, setting Interpreter standards and a national assessment service for NZSL proficiency:

- There has been strong interest from hearing people in the development of a Māori sign language and making Te Ao Māori accessible for Tāngata Turi with considerable time taken to promote benefits for Māori Deaf. The Board have identified emerging priorities from hui held with Tāngata Turi which include, accessing te ao Māori and marae events in NZSL, being included in whānau/hapū and iwi life, building the tri-lingual interpreter workforce and building a sustained approach to Tāngata Turi for Tāngata Turi.
- Setting NZSL interpreter standards has been a priority for the Board from its establishment. This year, MBIE invited the inclusion of NZSL Interpreters into the Language Assistance Services (LAS) programme and the use of the National Accreditation of Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) based in Australia. Due diligence is underway to ensure that NAATI certification of interpreters will address the needs of NZSL Interpreters without any negative workforce impacts.
- Work to provide NZSL Proficiency tests for adults began this year. This work involves engagement with Deaf education

stakeholders¹³ alongside developing systems and processes for managing the Assessor workforce.

The Office for Disability Issues has provided Secretariat support for the NZSL Board since 2015. Over this time, the NZSL Board has recognised the need to invest in strategic projects over time to realise the NZSL Strategy, rather than rely on community grants as the main activity to progress the Strategy).

Demand for secretariat support, is expected to be sustained as national demand for access to NZSL support continues to increase. In response, there is a need to grow the workforce, sector, and professional development.

Some projects may be more efficiently progressed and achieved by the NZSL team rather than contracting out the work. Recruitment is underway for the establishment of an NZSL Office within ODI. The team will be increased to five full-time members, which will future-proof the work to maintain and promote NZSL.

i.Lead

i.Lead is a national network for disabled youth to have a voice around the barriers, challenges and concerns they face within New Zealand. ODI continues to work with i.Lead and Yes Disability Resource Centre to establish their regional network.

In 2021, COVID-19 continued to impact on the work of i.Lead. The National Conference planned for September 2021 was postponed and has been rescheduled for February 2022.

The i.Lead symposium¹⁴ in September 2019 was a forum for young disabled people from across New Zealand to come together and make their voices heard on the issues and barriers they face.

¹³ This is the priority group to raise NZSL fluency for Deaf children's acquisition of the language

¹⁴ www.ileadchange.org

The symposium aimed to empower young disabled people to be heard and participate in civil engagement.

ODI are working to coordinate a finalised cross-government response to i.Lead's recommendations from the 2019 forum by the end of 2021, ahead of next year's conference. The response aims to acknowledge the mahi the i.Lead Committee has put in and to indicate that their recommendations are being actively considered.

ODI has regularly supported i.Lead to connect with other government agencies to ensure that the voice of disabled youth are reflected and incorporated into government work programmes.

COVID-19 provided an opportunity for members of i.Lead to let their creative juices flow as they collaborated with a local disabled musician to write and produce a COVID-19 recovery music video, launched on social media in September 2021.

Indicators

ODI and DDEWG continue to develop and finalise indicators for the Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework. Performance on some measures related to this Outcome Area is shown below.

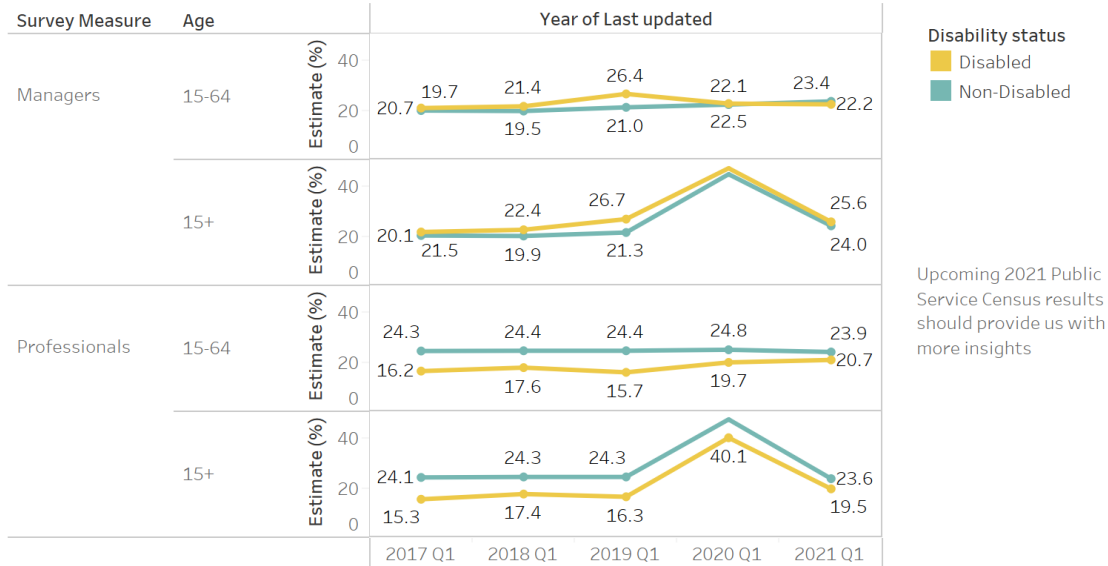
Inequality and progress in Leadership by and towards disabled people

8.1 Leadership in the disability sector is effective.

No suitable data is currently available.

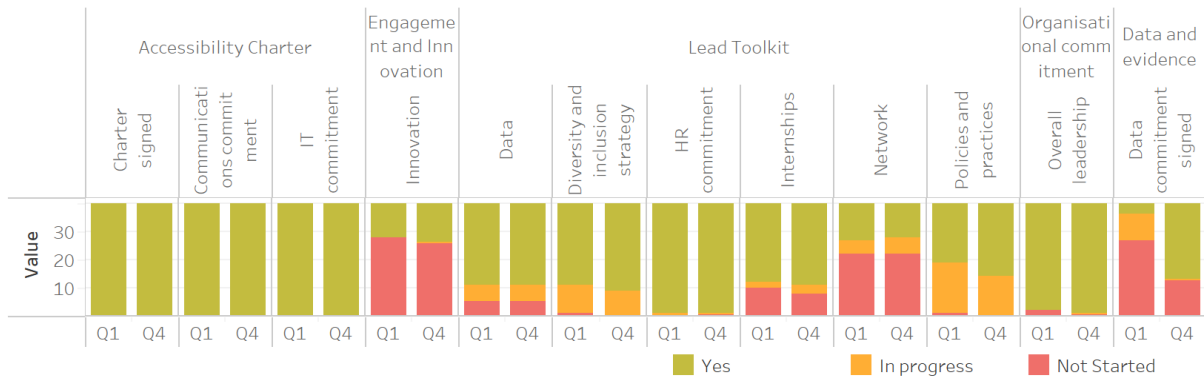
8.2 Disabled people are represented in leadership roles across society.

“High-skilled” occupations by disability status (HLFS, 2021)

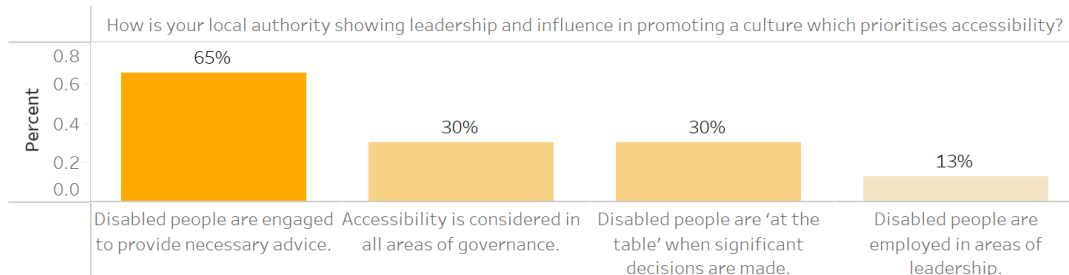


8.3 Government demonstrates good leadership on disability issues.

No. of Government agencies committed to various aspects of leadership on disability (6-monthly report on Lead toolkit and Accessibility charter, 2021).



National Local Authority Survey on Accessibility (2018)



Disability data

Improving the collection and analysis of data on disabled New Zealanders has been identified as a cross-cutting issue in the DAP. Having timely, reliable, and accessible data to inform policy and service development and delivery is crucial if disabled people in New Zealand are to have equal opportunities to participate in society. The saying, “if you aren’t counted, you don’t count”, holds true.

Disability Data and Evidence Working Group

DDEWG is jointly led by Statistics NZ and ODI, and comprises representatives from Disabled People’s Organisations, several government agencies, key service providers, and universities. DDEWG’s work programme comprises five areas¹⁵, and key progress includes:

- commissioning a contractor to co-ordinate resources on disability data
- disability modules are being developed for those accessing disability data in the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI), including guidance for data on neurodiversity, data on older disabled people, and data on disabled children
- developing guidance for government agencies collecting disability data through administrative processes.

New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 Outcomes Framework

ODI has continued to develop and finalise indicators for the NZDS Outcomes Framework, building on the 2017 work with the New Zealand Strategy Revision Reference Group and Statistics NZ.

¹⁵ development of key messages, resources, collection and use of data, research, reporting progress.

Government agencies have provided detailed feedback on the disability data that is currently gathered and its limitations. This process has also resulted in more government agencies beginning to collect data on disabled people. Visualisation software needed for publication has been approved, with ODI now working to publish indicators on the upcoming refresh of the ODI website.

There has been an overall improvement in the availability of disability data in the last few years. A variety of reports were released in 2021 that provide information on disabled people in New Zealand and support monitoring of the DAP outcome measures:

- Publication of the Labour market Statistics for June 2021 quarter and publication of the third cycle of the NZ Crime and Victimization Survey (2019/20).
- New insights were shed on disabled youth and children, with the publication of child poverty statistics, which for the very first time was disaggregated by disability status. Uniquely, this report analysed outcomes by not only the disability status of the child, but also the household, providing data disaggregated by whether or not the child lived with at least one person in the household that was disabled.
- The Youth 2000 Survey provided further insights on disabled youth, including examining intersectionality between Māori, Pacific and Rainbow youth.
- The Children's Commissioner released the 'What makes a good life' report, providing additional qualitative insights from disabled youth and children.
- Horizon Research has been commissioned by Ministry of Health to conduct surveys monthly on attitudes towards the COVID-19 Vaccine, including that of disabled people.

- The Census (2023) screening question for disabled people has been modified based on feedback from disabled people, allowing to capture a wider range of individuals that may fall under the disability umbrella.
- Public consultation for the Disability Survey (2023) has also commenced.
- Other upcoming publications include the Public Service Census (2021) which will for the very first time will allow disability representation and inclusion in Public Service to be understood.

New Zealand's international obligations

COVID-19 has impacted on the work of UN Committees and forums with many international events being held virtually or deferred. ODI has participated in a range of COVID-19 specific international (virtual) events to support and learn from other jurisdictions.

Making Disability Rights Real in a Pandemic¹⁶, was launched by the Independent Monitoring Mechanism (IMM)¹⁷ on 21 January 2021. This report reflects disabled New Zealanders' experiences of the COVID-19 emergency and details areas where the IMM believes the Government did well and where improvements were needed.

The IMM considered that there were seven key areas where urgent attention was required:

1. access to essential goods, services, and spaces
2. decision making, participation and data
3. access to information and communications
4. education
5. health
6. work and employment
7. access to justice, and disabled people in places of detention.

¹⁶ <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/resources/making-disability-rights-real-pandemic>

¹⁷ New Zealand's IMM partners are the Disabled People's Organisations' (DPO) Coalition, the Ombudsman, and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission.

Section three: Looking forward to 2022 and beyond

A key priority will be supporting government agencies to respond to emerging needs from the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring the voice and needs of disabled people are included in planning for the welfare, economic and health response.

Also important will be continuing to monitor and implement the DAP work programmes, and prioritising strategic opportunities that will promote positive change for disabled New Zealanders and contribute to their wellbeing.

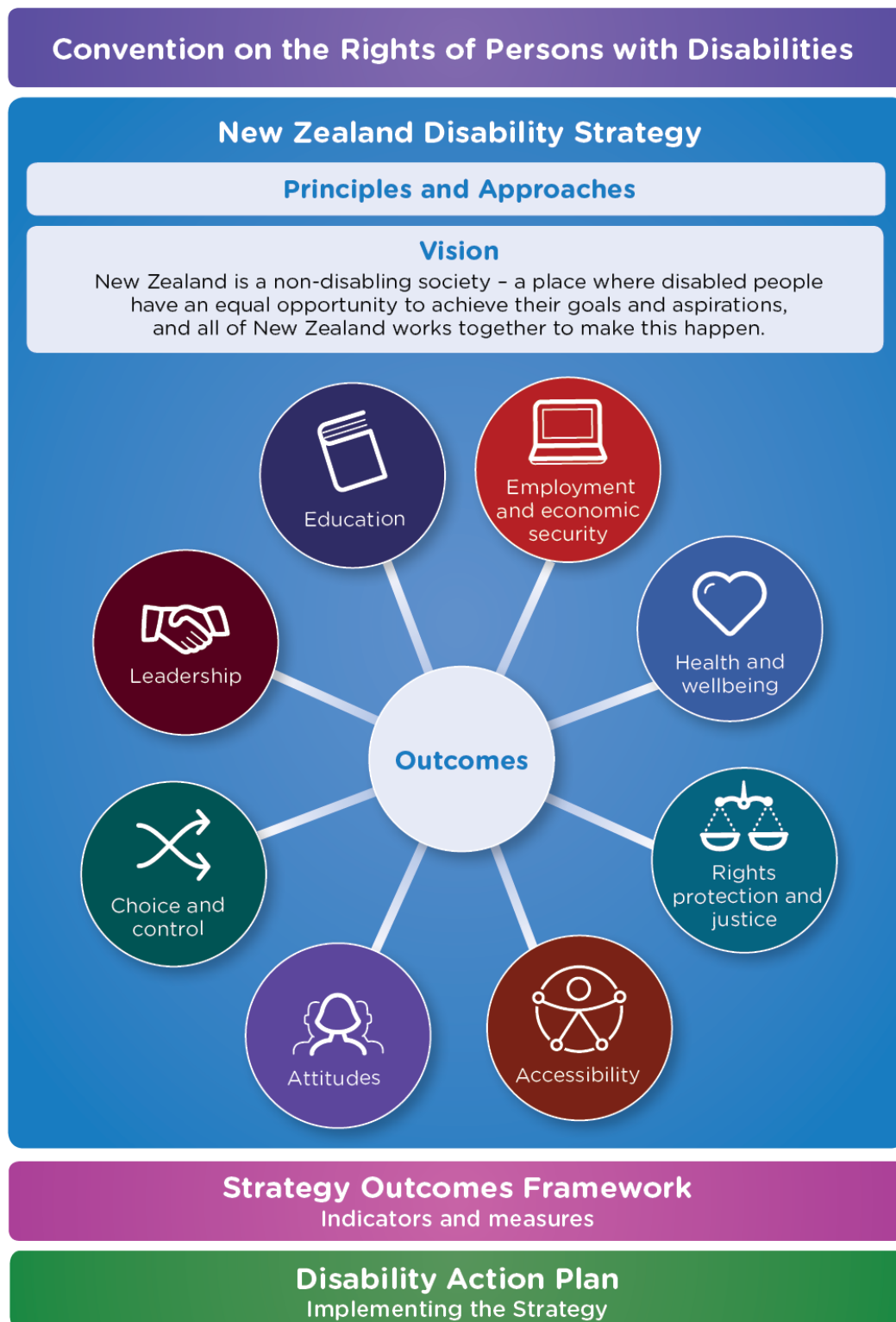
There may be other programmes of work identified for inclusion in the DAP. Government agencies continue to engage strongly with the DPO Coalition and other disability groups on development of work programmes focussed on disability.

Key work programme areas/achievements for 2022 include:

- The establishment of a Ministry for Disabled People.
- An initial pilot release of Tahatū¹⁸ is expected, primarily for schools, and then a wider public release to follow.
- Policy options for new legislation to repeal and replace the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992 will be developed and advice provided to the Government.
- Introduction of Accessibility legislation to the House.
- Kāinga Ora will be undertaking their first comprehensive review of their existing Accessibility Policy.

¹⁸ A new careers planning solution to replace careers.govt.nz

Appendix one: Relationship between the UNCRPD, the New Zealand Disability Strategy, and the Disability Action Plan



Appendix two: Disability Action Plan 2019-2023

