

Work and Development Order Scheme

Year In Review
Data Report
2021/22

01 Year on a page

Celebrating

11 years

Since the WDO scheme was made permanent

Education

700

Participants in webinars focused on fines and WDOs

232

Community Legal Education events delivered by Legal Aid NSW

WDO Sponsors

40.9%

of sponsors located outside of Sydney

40.7%

WDOs supported by non-government organisations

44,482

calls answered by the Revenue NSW WDO Hotline in 2021/22

276

New sponsors approved in 2021/22

WDO Customers

23%

of WDO applicants were under 25

62%

WDOs involved treatment programs

64%

Applicants who were male

34

Applicants identified with a non-specific gender

WDOs Approved and Debt Resolved

25,328

WDOs approved in Current FY (219,429 in total)

59%

of WDOs closed with no remaining debt

\$40.5m

debt resolved in 2021/22 (\$298.2m in total)

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander People

19.9%

More likely to attend education or life skills courses under a WDO

Culturally & Linguistically Diverse People

18.6%

More likely to complete unpaid work under a WDO

02 WDO sponsors

Introduction

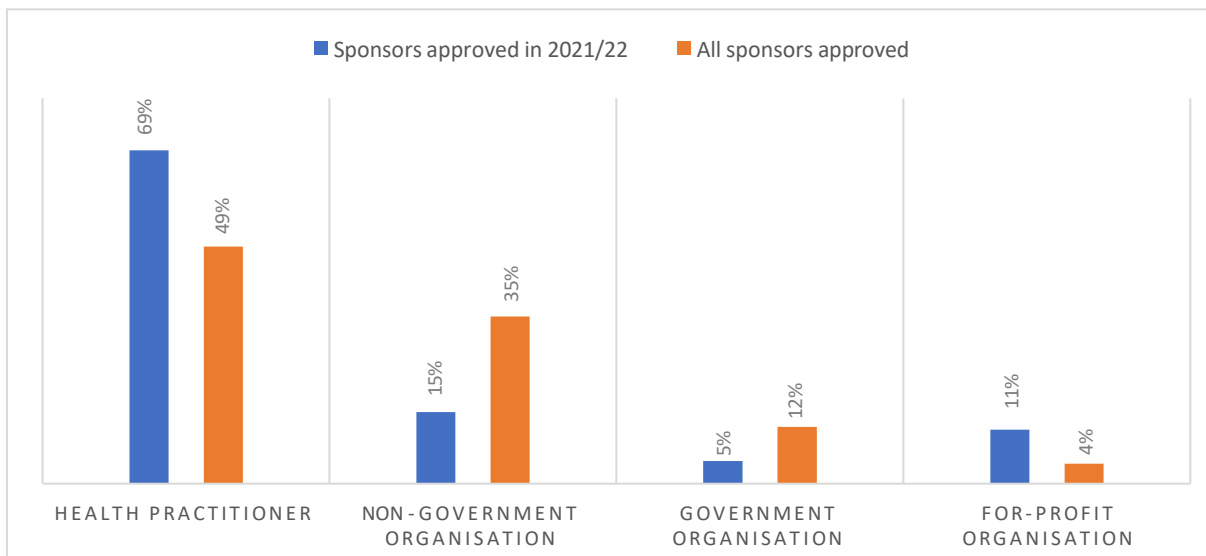
WDO sponsor approvals in 2021/22

Table 5.1 – Approved WDO sponsors by type

Sponsor type	Sponsors approved in 2021/22	All sponsors approved
Health practitioner	191	1,396
Non-government organisation	41	986
Government organisation	13	336
For-profit organisation	31	119
Total	276	2,837

Figure 5.1 – Comparison of sponsor approvals in 2021/22

69% of all new sponsors approved were HPs and HPs make up 49% of total approved sponsors in the scheme

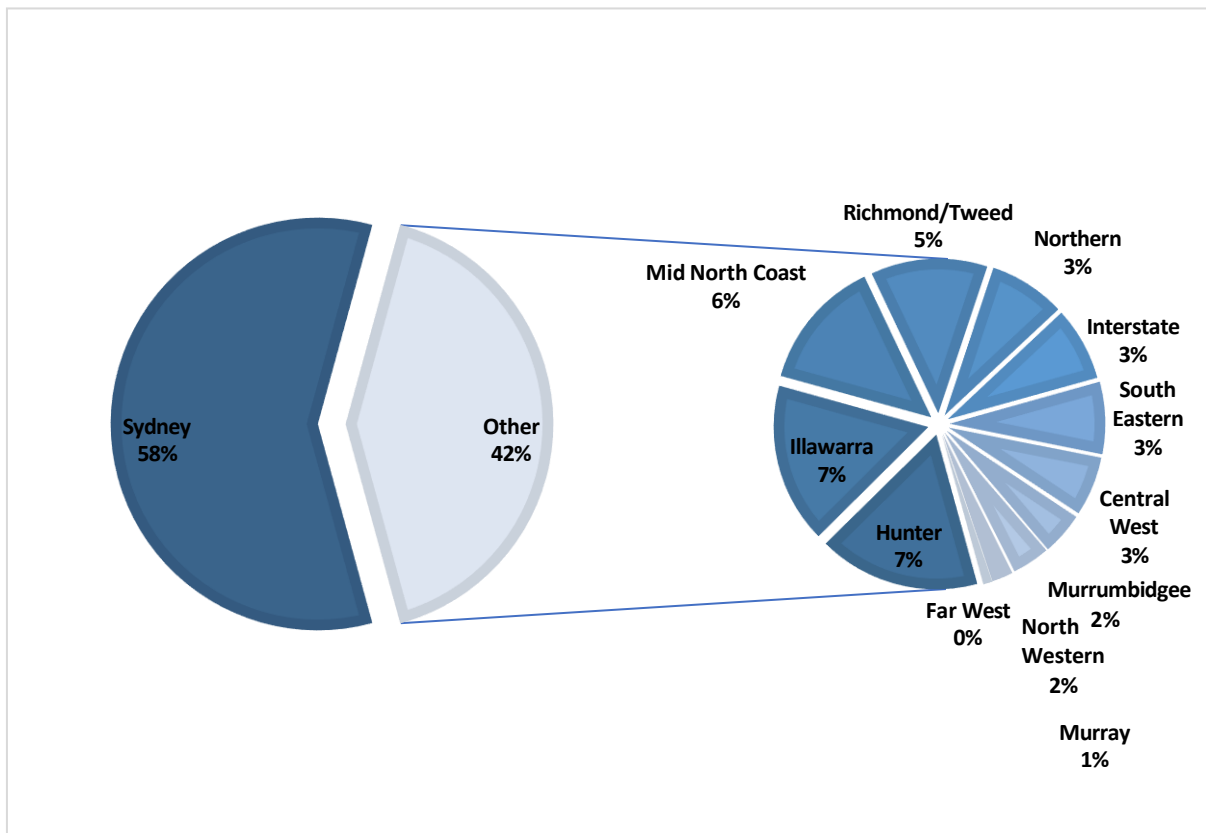


Location of WDO sponsors in NSW

Table 5.2 – Approved WDO sponsors by statistical division

Statistical division	Sponsors approved - 2021/22	Approved sponsors - total
Sydney	179	1,659
Hunter	33	198
Illawarra	14	197
Mid North Coast	12	161
Richmond/Tweed	17	143
Northern	6	94
Interstate	1	90
South Eastern	5	87
Central West	2	73
Murrumbidgee	6	52
North Western	1	46
Murray	0	26
Far West	0	11
Total	276	2,837

Figure 5.2 – Geographic dispersion of all approved WDO sponsors in NSW



03 Scheme overview

Growth in WDOs approved

Table 6.1 – WDOs approved per year since 2012

Financial Year	Number of WDOs Approved	Increase on Previous Year
2021/22	25,328	-14.17%
2020/21	29,511	-8.21%
2019/20	32,150	2.76%
2018/19	31,286	13.04%
2017/18	27,676	23.48%
2016/17	22,413	25.89%
2015/16	17,804	29.26%
2014/15	13,774	21.79%
2013/14	11,310	63.18%
2012/13	6,931	456.26%
2011/12	1,246	-
Grand Total	194,101	-

Figure 6.1 – WDOs approved by financial year

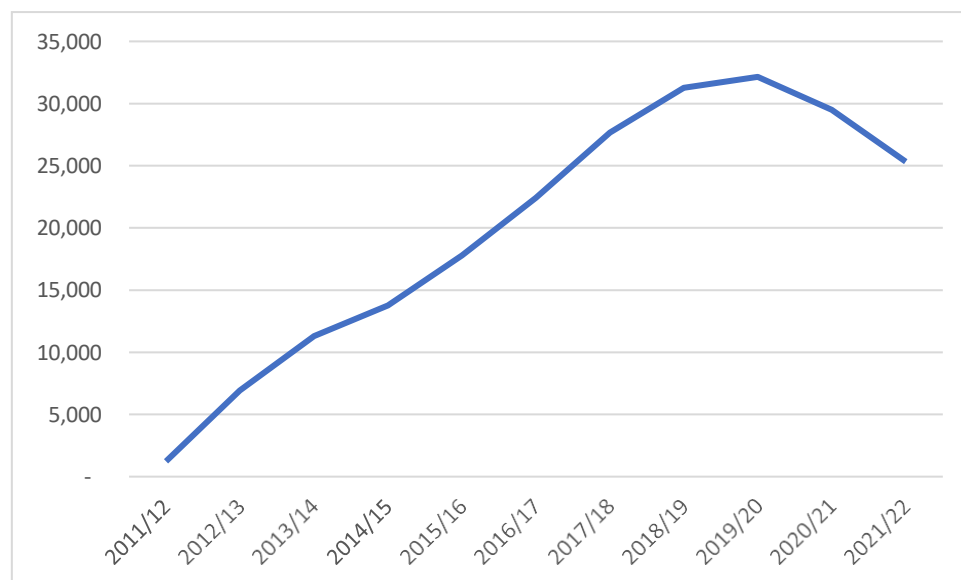


Table 6.2 – WDOs approved in 2021/22

Approval Month	Number of WDOs	Value of Debt (at time of approval)
Jul	2,422	\$9,152,876
Aug	2,266	\$7,875,084
Sep	1,733	\$6,117,042
Oct	1,665	\$5,308,470
Nov	2,018	\$7,042,625
Dec	1,726	\$6,572,976
Jan	1,674	\$5,889,147
Feb	2,373	\$9,350,955
Mar	2,543	\$8,929,401
Apr	2,059	\$7,204,654
May	2,495	\$8,857,136
Jun	2,354	\$8,175,626
Grant Total	25,328	\$90,475,992

Debt cleared through WDOs

Table 6.3 – Debt cleared through WDOs

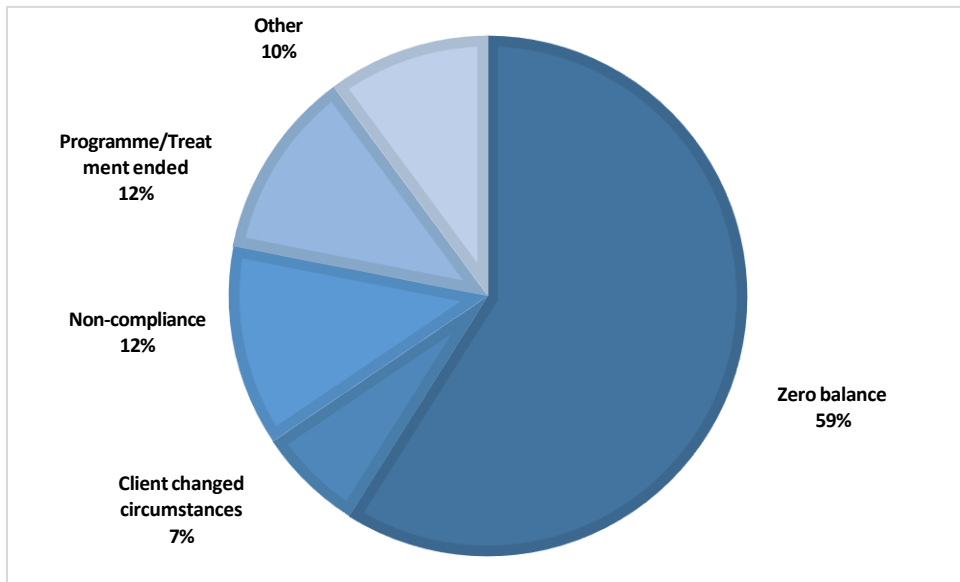
Financial Year	Value of Debt Cleared
2021/22	\$40,512,024
2020/21	\$44,215,481
2019/20	\$45,936,756
2018/19	\$42,956,856
2017/18	\$34,666,541
2016/17	\$27,600,406
2015/16	\$22,022,930
2014/15	\$17,304,543
2013/14	\$14,663,725
2012/13	\$7,640,939
2011/12	\$676,856
Grand Total	\$298,197,056

Table 6.4 – Debt cleared through WDOs in 2021/22

Month	Value of Debt Cleared
Jul	\$4,119,018
Aug	\$3,467,184
Sep	\$3,433,165
Oct	\$2,979,222
Nov	\$3,623,214
Dec	\$3,021,505
Jan	\$2,706,925
Feb	\$3,039,211
Mar	\$3,756,790
Apr	\$2,928,631
May	\$3,781,690
Jun	\$3,655,468
Grant Total	\$40,512,024

Closed WDOs

Figure 6.2 – WDOs closed in 2021/22 by reasons



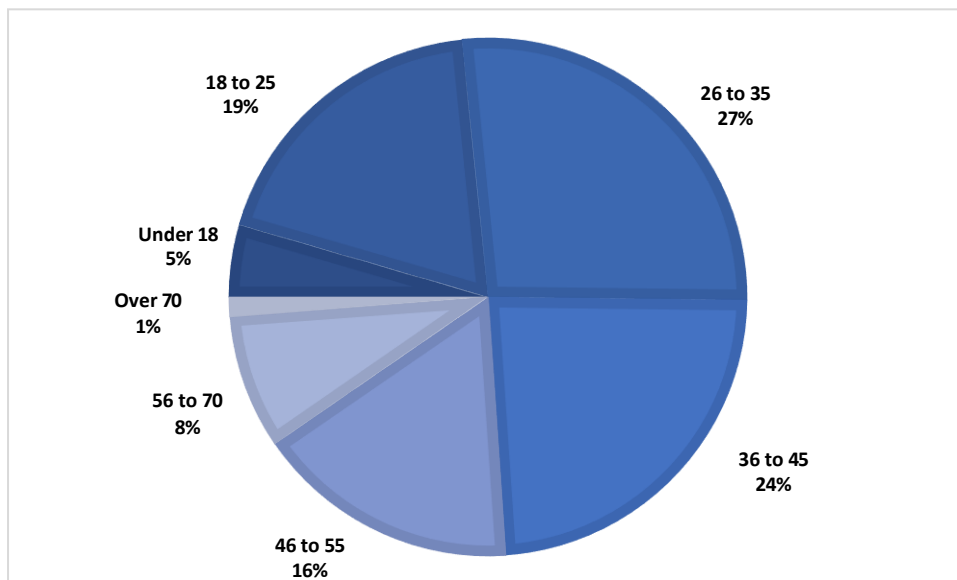
04 WDO participants – who are they?

Age

Table 7.1 – WDOs approved in 2021/22 by participant age

Age Bracket	WDOs Approved
Under 18	1,145
18 to 25	4,781
26 to 35	6,786
36 to 45	6,009
46 to 55	4,178
56 to 70	2,133
Over 70	296
Grand Total	25,328

Figure 7.1 – Distribution of approved WDOs in 2021/22 by age

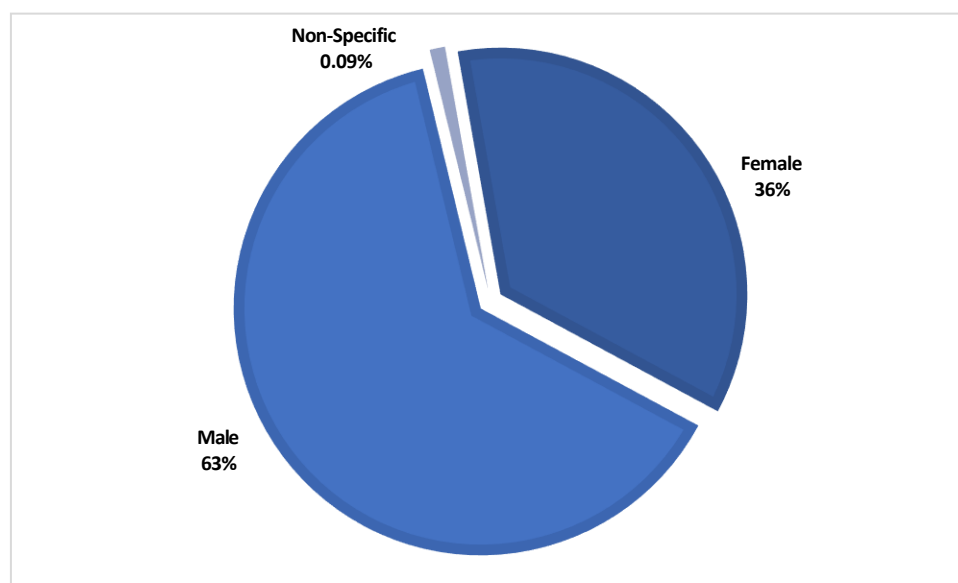


Gender

Table 7.2 – WDOs approved in 2021/22 by participant gender

Gender	WDOs Approved
Female	9,106
Male	16,188
Non-Specific	34
Grand Total	25,328

Figure 7.2 – Gender of WDO applicants in 2021/2



Centrelink status

Table 7.3 – Centrelink status

Financial Year	% of applicants receiving Centrelink
2021/22	61%
2020/21	59%
2019/20	60%
2018/19	60%
2017/18	62%
2016/17	65%
2015/16	66%
2014/15	69%

WDO sponsors

Figure 7.3 – WDOs approved in 2021/22 by sponsor type

Of all WDOs approved – 28% were undertaken with a HP

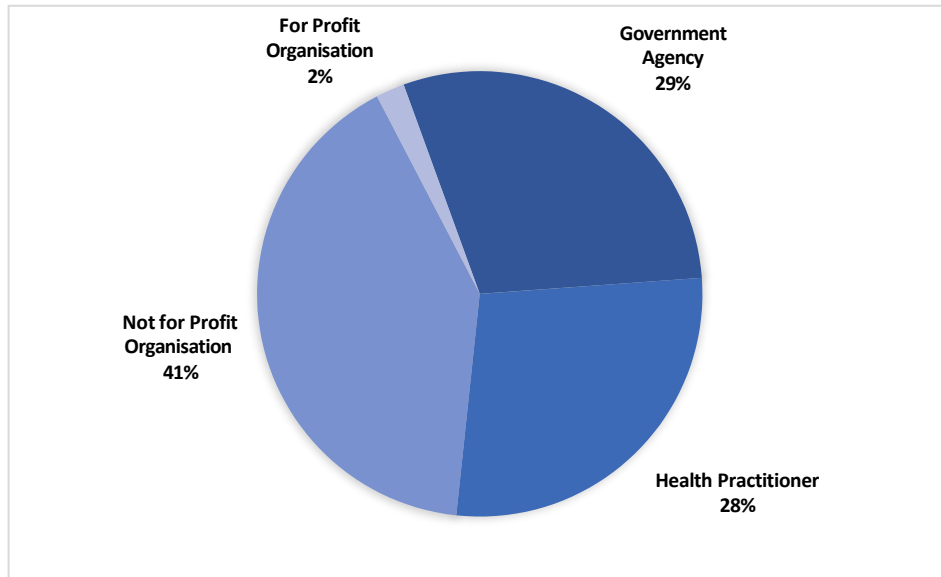


Figure 7.4 – Sponsor type by age range in 2021/22

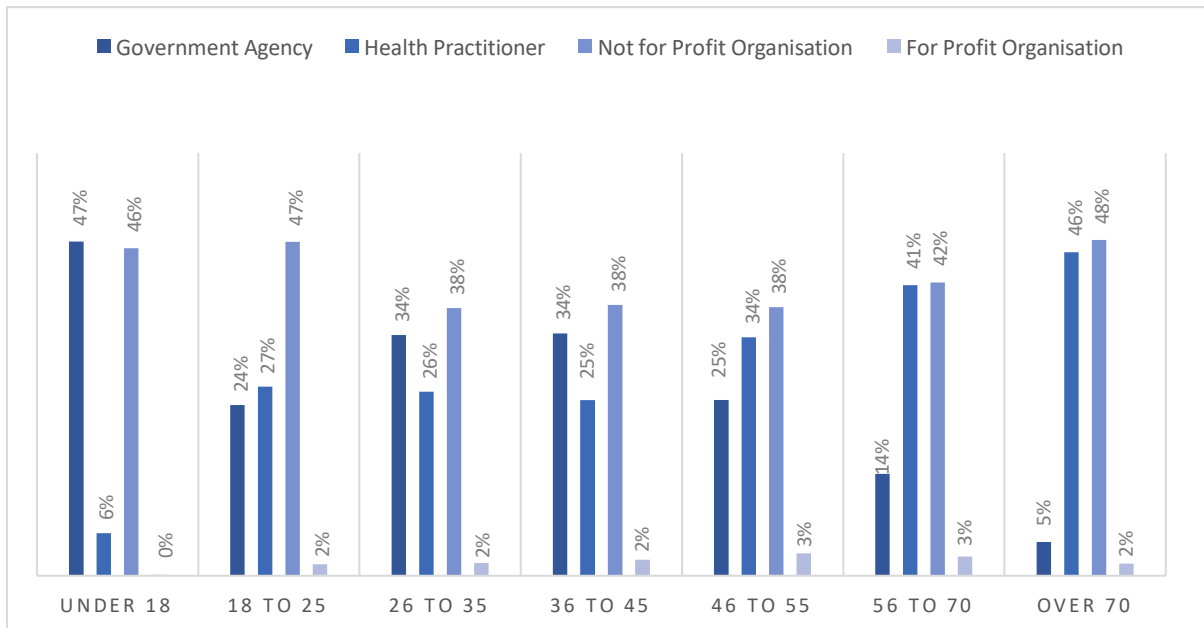
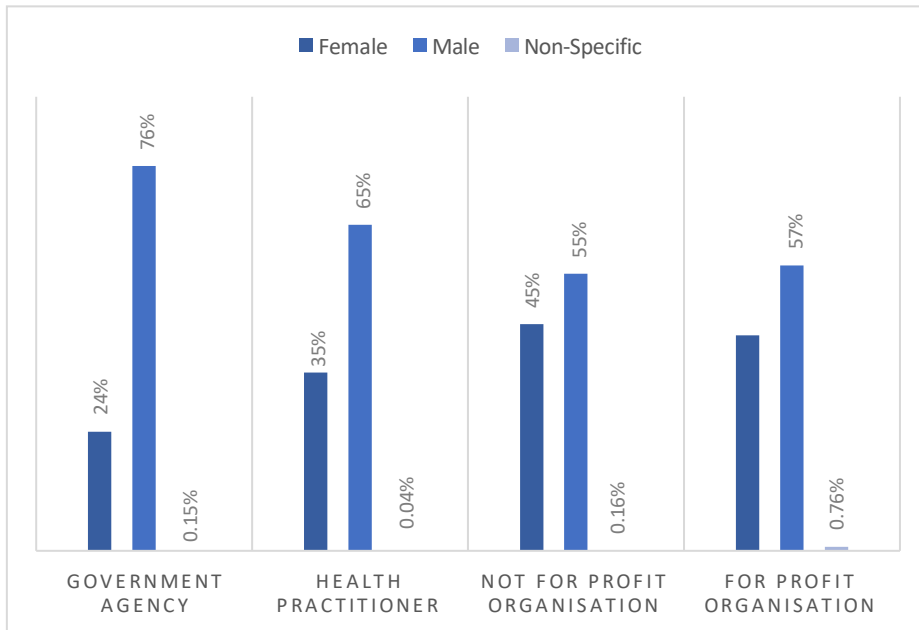


Figure 7.5 – Sponsor type by gender in 2021/22



05 Eligibility & activities

Eligibility

Figure 8.1 – Eligibility types for WDOs approved in 2021/22

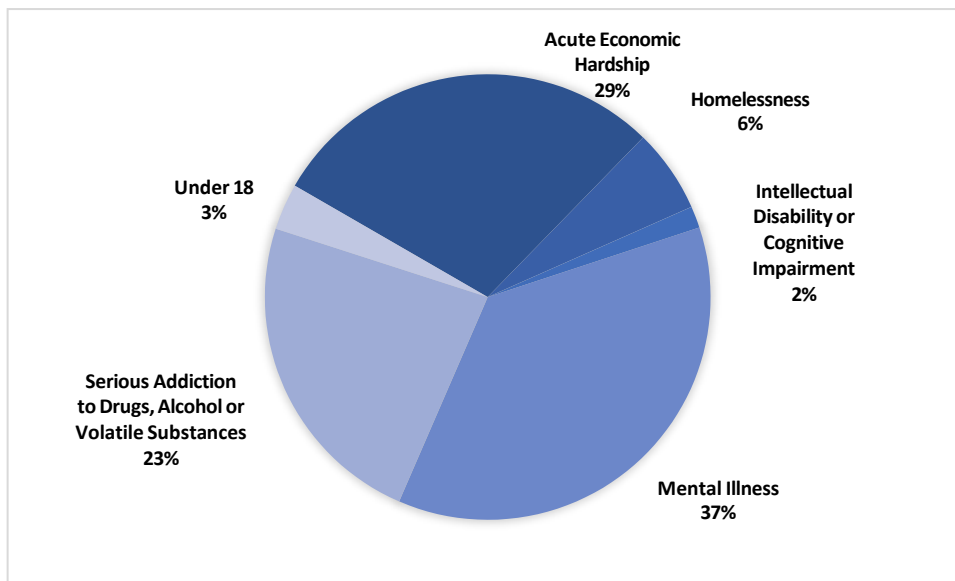


Table 8.1 – WDOs approved in 2021/22 by eligibility type

Eligibility Type	Number of WDOs Approved
Mental Illness	10,603
Acute Economic Hardship	8,396
Serious Addiction to Drugs, Alcohol or Volatile Substances	6,802
Homelessness	1,763
Under 18	976
Intellectual Disability or Cognitive Impairment	456
Grand Total	28,996

Figure 8.2 – Eligibility types for female and male applicants in 2021/22

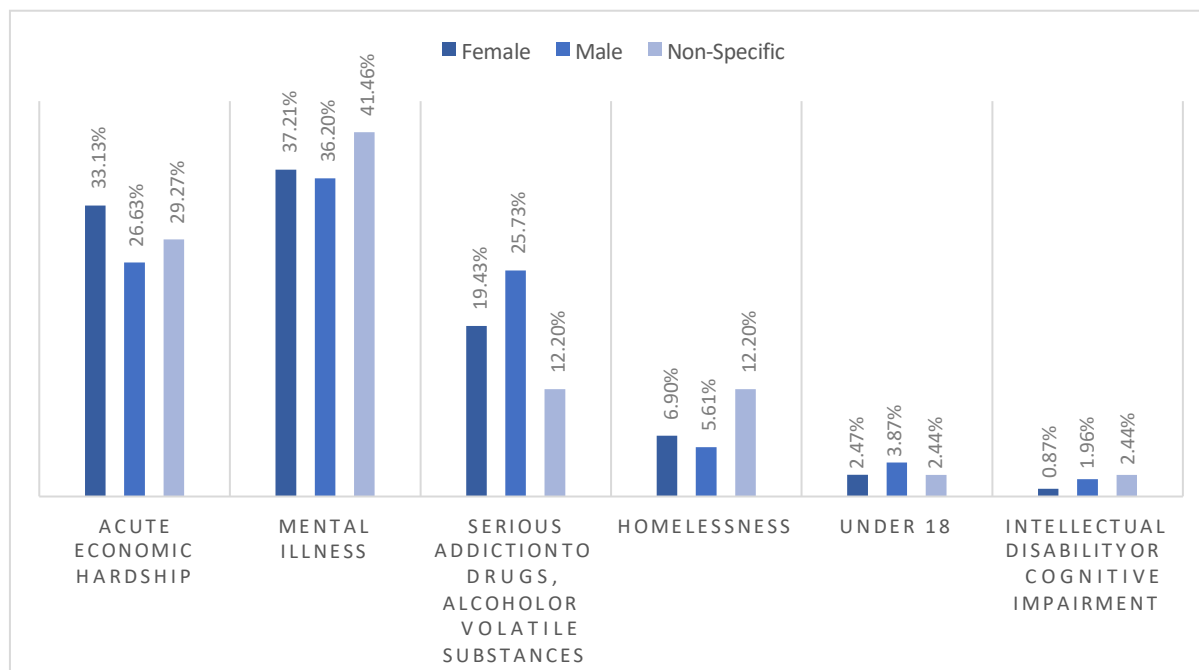
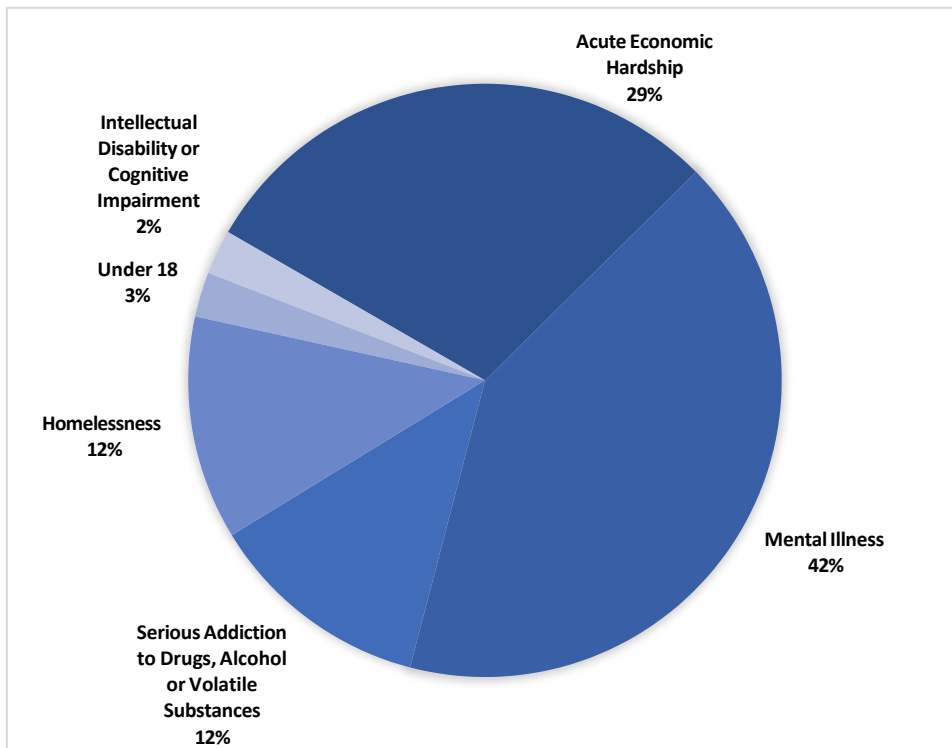


Figure 8.3 – Eligibility types in 2021/22 for applicants identifying with a non-specific gender



Activities

Figure 8.4 – Activity types in 2021/22

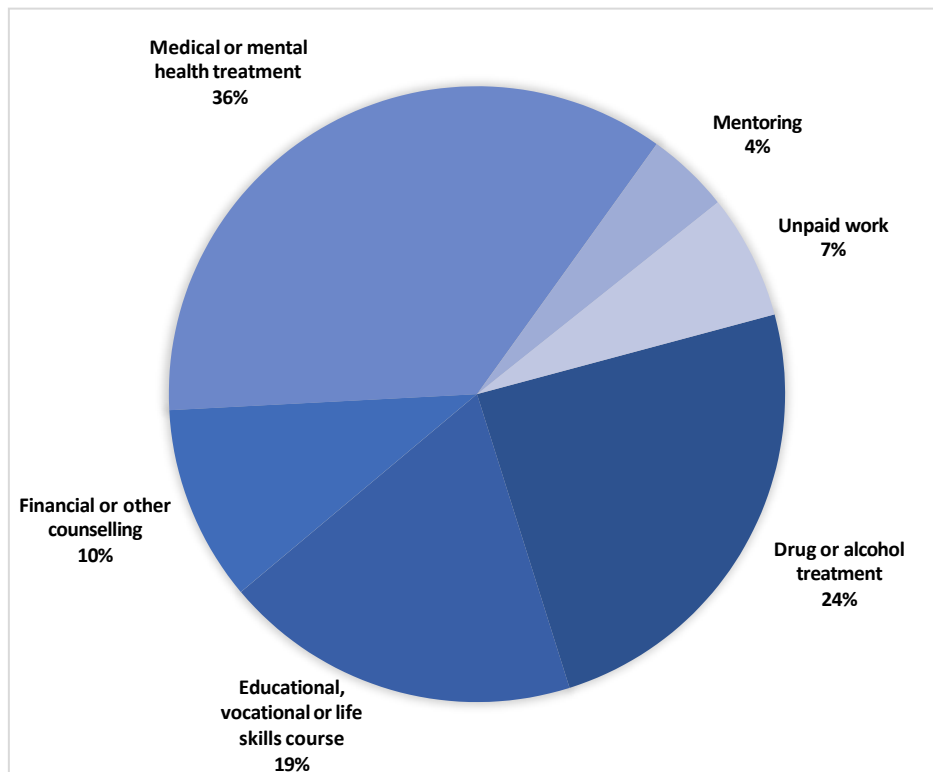


Table 8.2 – WDOs approved in 2021/22 by activity type

Activity	Number of WDOs Approved
Medical or mental health treatment	9,500
Drug or alcohol treatment	6,461
Educational, vocational or life skills course	4,982
Financial or other counselling	2,731
Unpaid work	1,738
Mentoring	1,163
Grand Total	26,575

Figure 8.5 – Activity types undertaken by female and male applicants in 2021/22

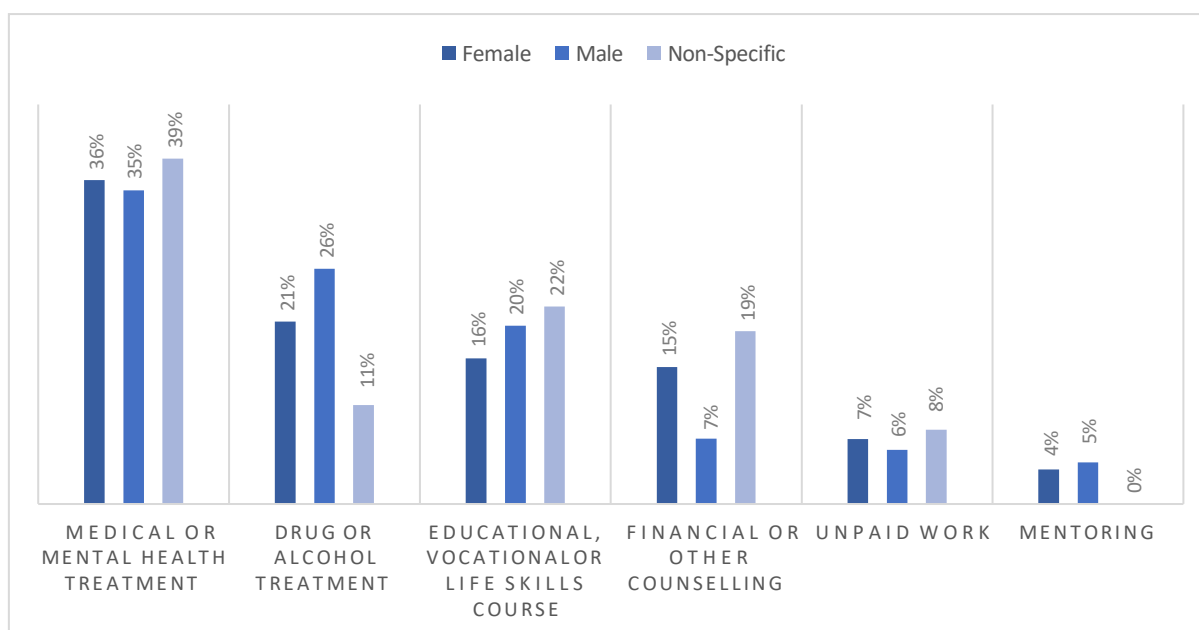
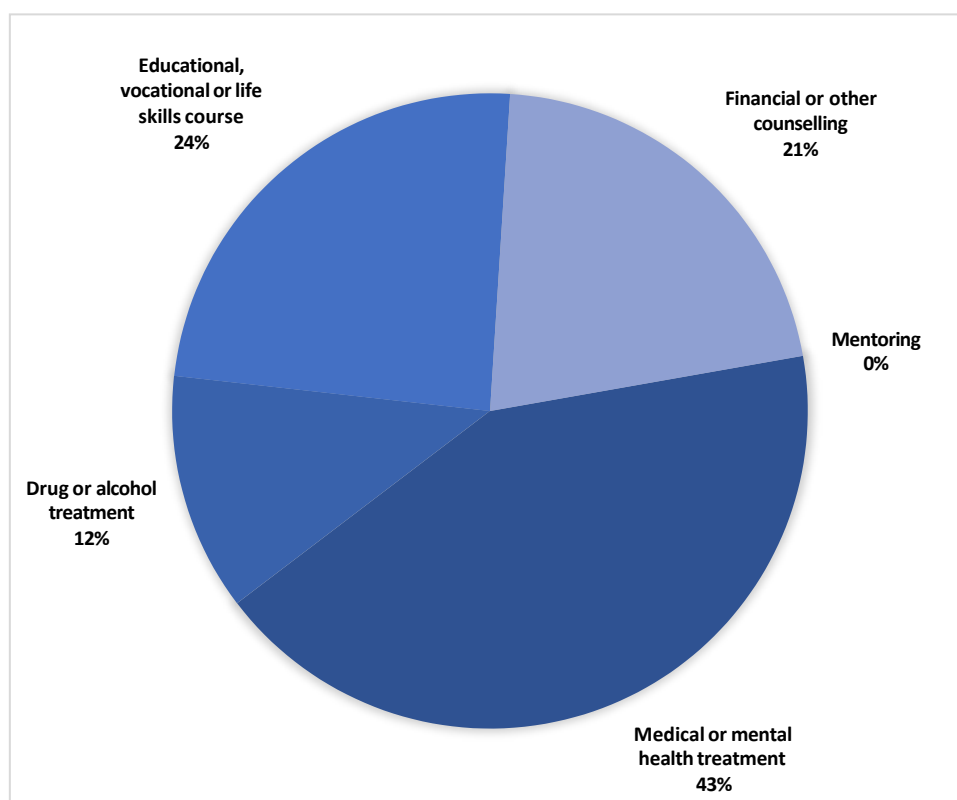


Figure 8.6 – Activities in 2021/22 for applicants identifying with a non-specific gender



06 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People

Participation

Figure 9.1 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in WDOs in 2021/22

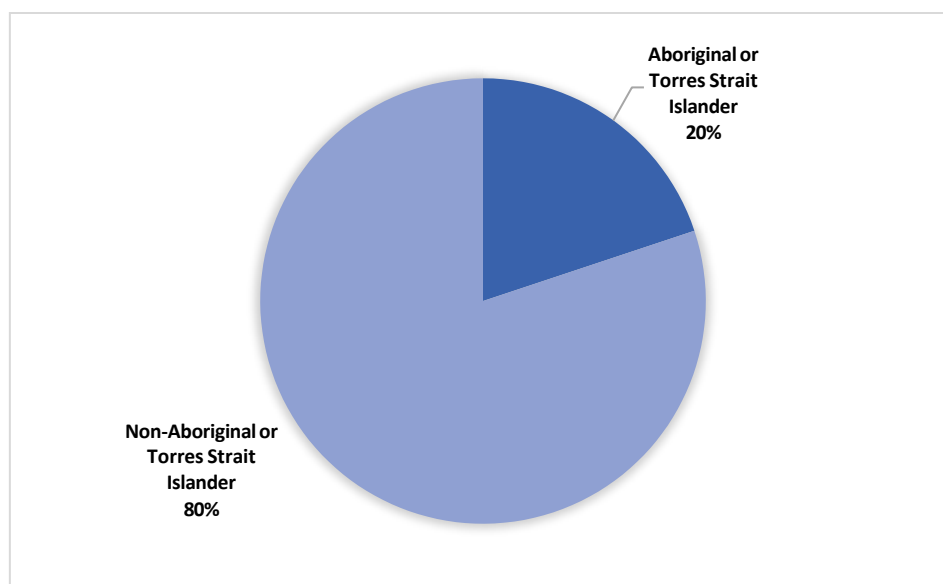


Table 9.1 – Number of WDOs approved for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in 2021/22

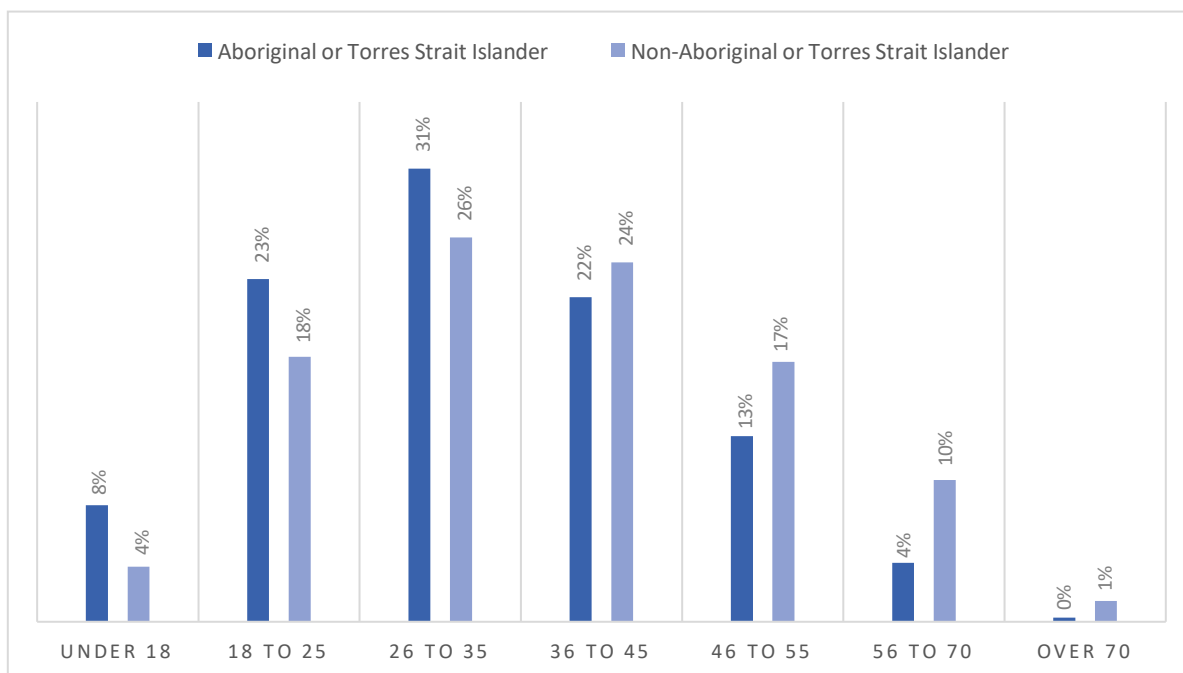
Approval Month	Number of WDOs	Value of Debt (at time of approval)
Jul	487	\$2,114,697
Aug	441	\$1,984,045
Sep	325	\$1,429,945
Oct	333	\$1,213,019
Nov	422	\$1,545,417
Dec	319	\$1,349,800
Jan	328	\$1,458,961
Feb	458	\$1,983,891
Mar	491	\$1,923,501
Apr	444	\$1,920,089
May	546	\$2,543,214
Jun	446	\$2,037,910
Grand Total	5,040	\$21,504,490

Demographics

Table 9.2 – Number of WDOs approved for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in 2021/22 by gender

Gender	Number of WDOs
Female	1,967
Male	3,068
Non-Specific	5

Figure 9.2 – Age of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants in 2021/22

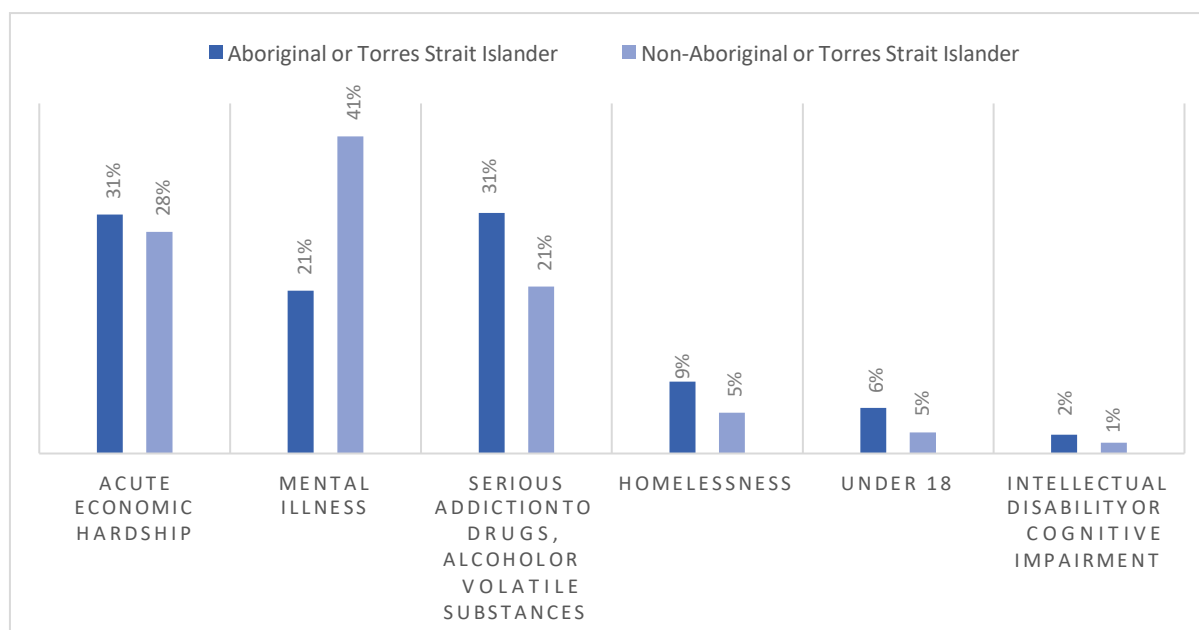


Eligibility

Table 9.3 – Eligibility types for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in 2021/22

Eligibility Type	Number of WDOs
Acute Economic Hardship	1,882
Mental Illness	1,283
Serious Addiction to Drugs, Alcohol or Volatile Substances	1,895
Homelessness	566
Under 18	359
Intellectual Disability or Cognitive Impairment	146

Figure 9.3 – Comparison of eligibility types for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants in 2021/22

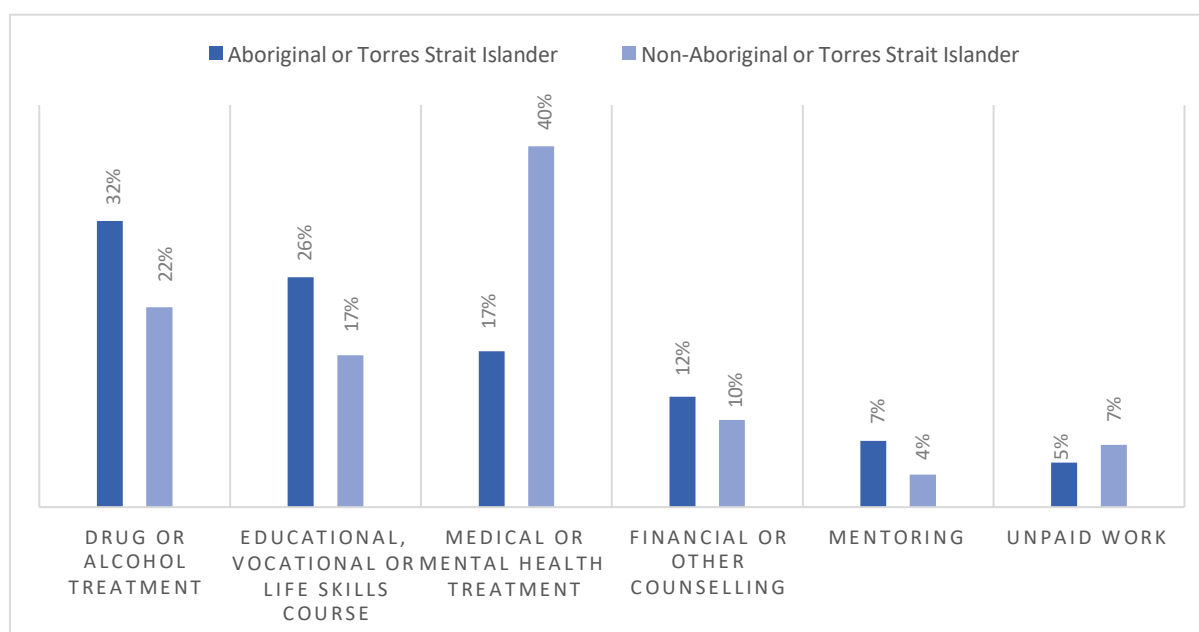


Activities

Table 9.4 – Activity types for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in 2021/22

Activity Type	Number of WDOs
Drug or alcohol treatment	1,724
Educational, vocational or life skills course	1,384
Medical or mental health treatment	939
Financial or other counselling	666
Mentoring	399
Unpaid work	268

Figure 9.4 – Comparison of activity types for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants in 2021/22



07 Culturally and Linguistically Diverse People

Participation

Figure 10.1 – Rate of participation in WDOs by CALD people in 2021/22

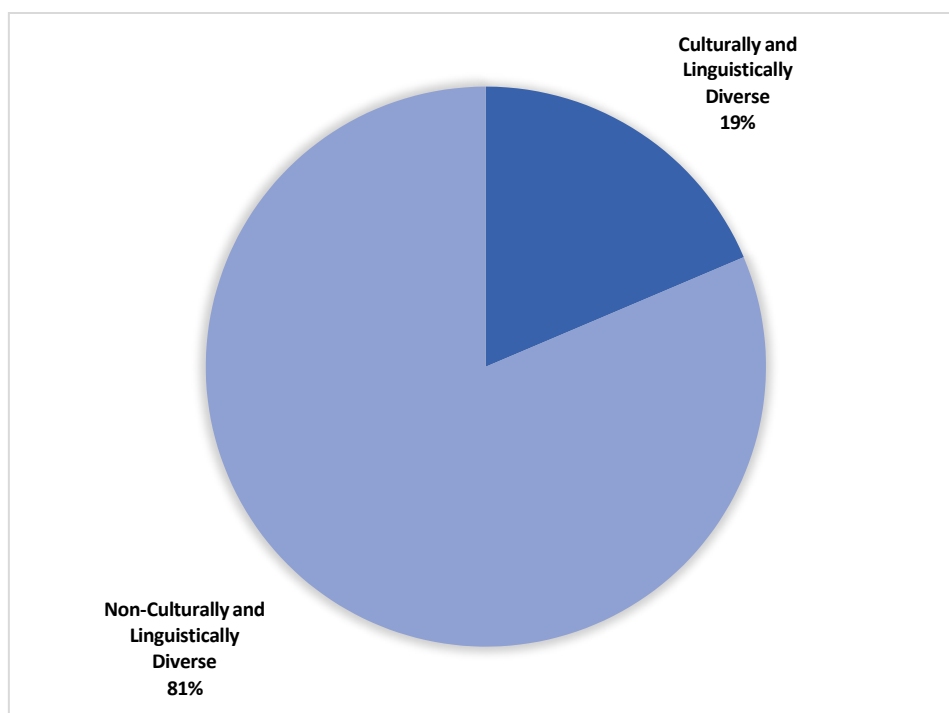


Table 10.1 – WDOs approved in 2021/22 for CALD people

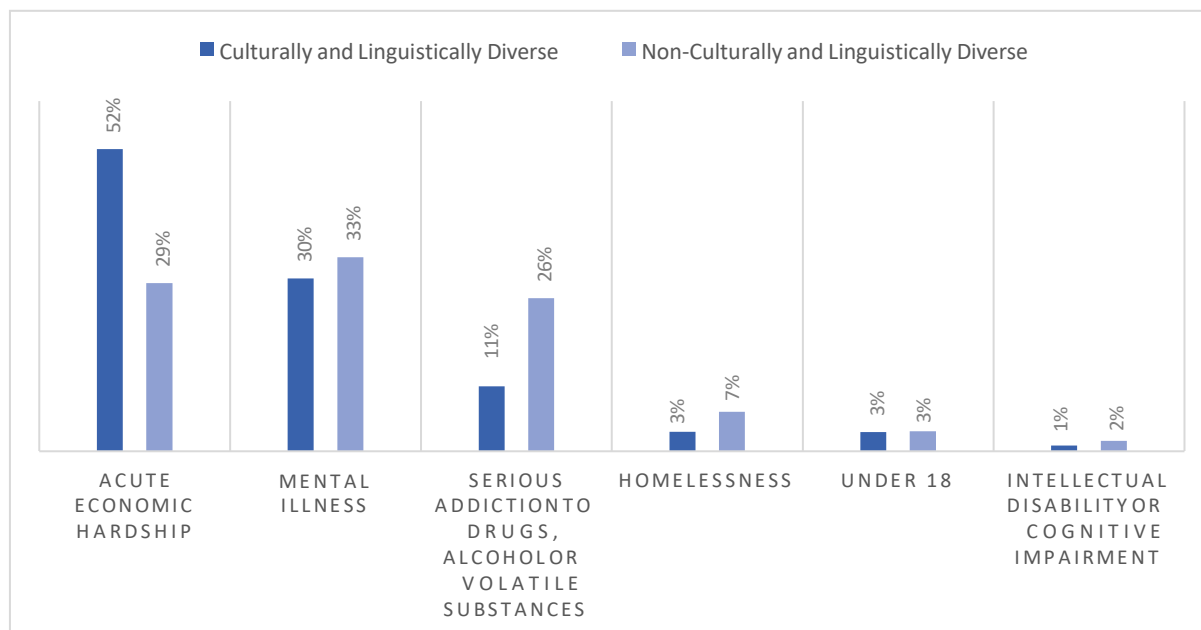
Approval Month	Number of WDOs	Value of Debt (at time of approval)
Jul	430	\$1,212,981
Aug	396	\$765,706
Sep	340	\$623,885
Oct	335	\$835,608
Nov	383	\$900,936
Dec	317	\$850,484
Jan	314	\$650,463
Feb	472	\$1,007,567
Mar	501	\$1,121,359
Apr	344	\$666,389
May	453	\$1,037,314
Jun	429	\$963,904
Grand Total	4,714	\$10,636,596

Demographics - Eligibility

Table 10.2 – Eligibility types for CALD people in 2021/22

Eligibility Type	Number of WDOs
Mental Illness	2,717
Acute Economic Hardship	1,554
Serious Addiction to Drugs, Alcohol or Volatile Substances	583
Under 18	174
Homelessness	171
Intellectual Disability or Cognitive Impairment	50

Figure 10.2 – Comparison of eligibility types between CALD and non-CALD people in 2021/22

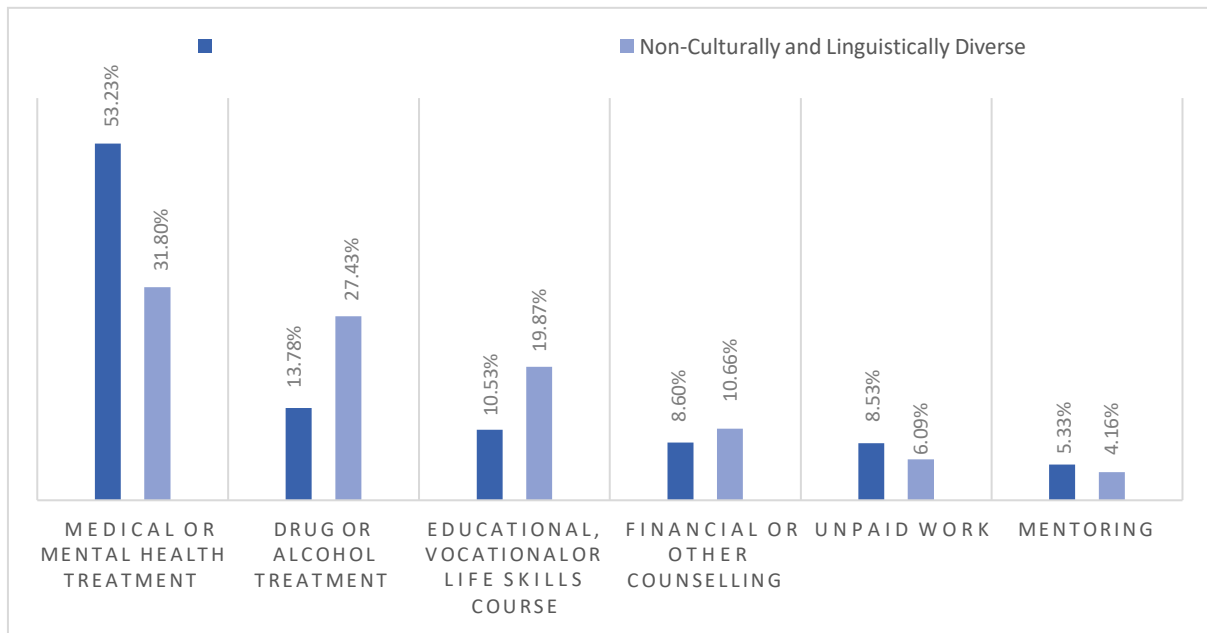


Activities

Table 10.3 – Activity types for CALD people in 2021/22

Activity Type	Number of WDOs
Medical or mental health treatment	2,607
Educational, vocational or life skills course	675
Drug or alcohol treatment	516
Financial or other counselling	421
Unpaid work	418
Mentoring	261

Figure 10.3 – Comparison of activity types for CALD and non-CALD participants in 2021/22



08 Young people

Participation

Figure 11.1 – Age distribution of WDO participants in 2021/22

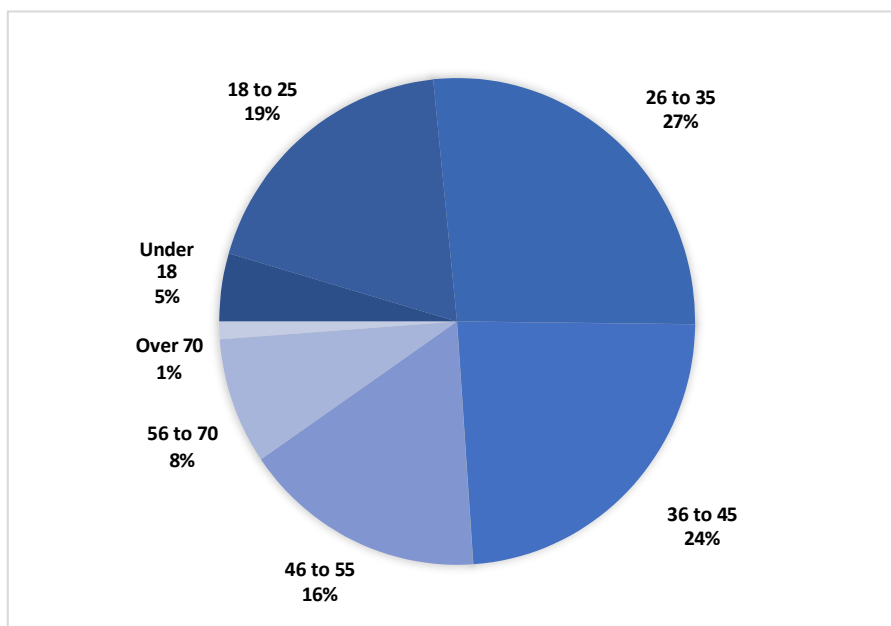


Table 11.1 – Number and value of WDOs approved in 2021/22 for young people

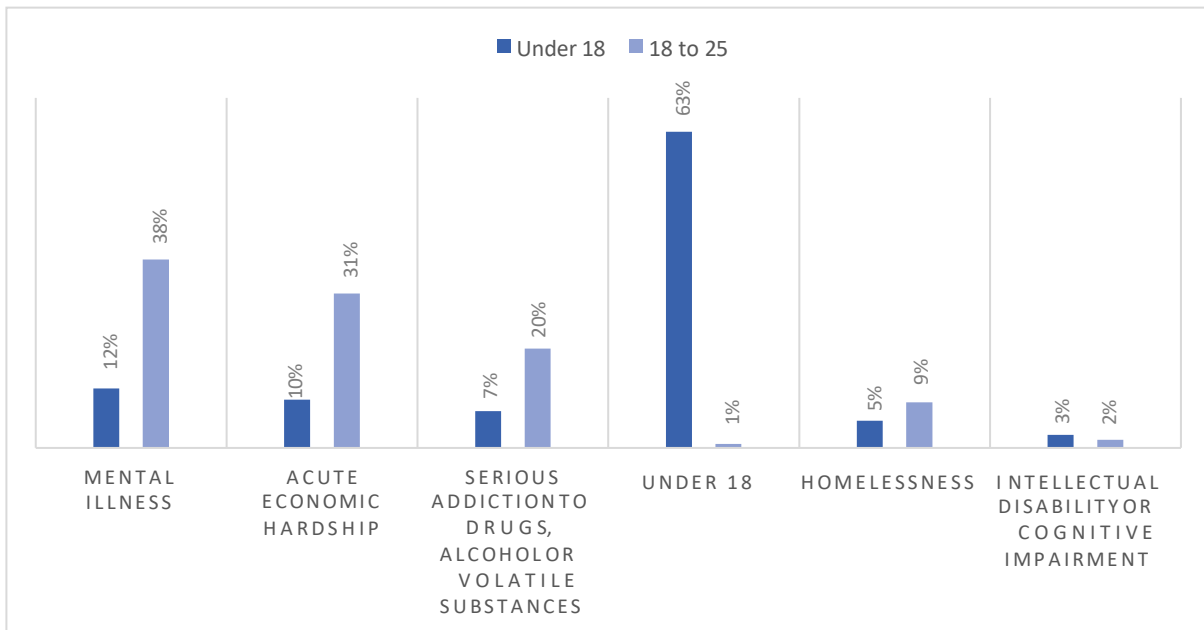
Month	Number of WDOs		Value of Debt (at time of approval)	
	Under 18	18 to 25	Under 18	18 to 25
Jul	104	457	\$65,885	\$1,297,940
Aug	122	433	\$85,079	\$1,239,679
Sep	95	360	\$82,190	\$870,157
Oct	94	337	\$85,887	\$918,684
Nov	93	401	\$138,483	\$1,217,713
Dec	84	321	\$82,487	\$769,616
Jan	72	340	\$66,060	\$894,607
Feb	112	452	\$112,325	\$1,215,939
Mar	82	442	\$65,208	\$1,093,622
Apr	67	371	\$76,016	\$796,109
May	116	471	\$117,986	\$1,209,242
Jun	104	396	\$71,490	\$1,102,675
Grand Total	1,145	4,781	\$1,049,097	\$12,625,984

Demographics - Eligibility

Table 11.2 – WDO eligibility types for young people in 2021/22

Eligibility Type	Number of WDOs approved	
	Under 18	Under 25
Mental Illness	174	2,052
Acute Economic Hardship	141	1,683
Serious Addiction to Drugs, Alcohol or Volatile Substances	108	1,083
Under 18	928	44
Homelessness	79	497
Intellectual Disability or Cognitive Impairment	38	90

Figure 11.2 – Eligibility types for WDO participants in 2021/22 by age range

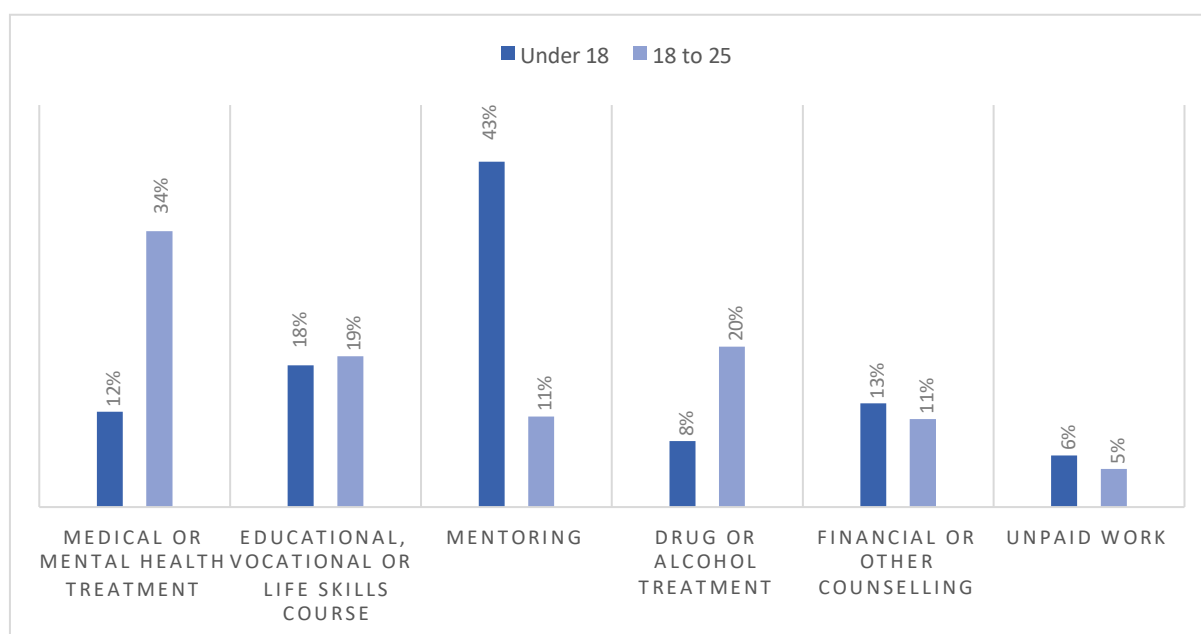


Activities

Table 11.3 – WDO activities undertaken by young people in 2021/22

Activity Type	Number of WDOs approved	
	Under 18	Under 25
Medical or mental health treatment	165	1,719
Educational, vocational or life skills course	245	940
Mentoring	596	564
Drug or alcohol treatment	114	1,000
Financial or other counselling	179	549
Unpaid work	89	237

Figure 11.3 - WDO activities undertaken in 2021/22 by age range



09 Top activities and sponsors for 2021/22

Medical or mental health treatment		
Sponsor Type	WDOs Approved	%
Government Agency	1,081	11.38%
Health Practitioner	6,653	70.02%
Not for Profit Organisation	1,524	16.04%
For Profit Organisation	243	2.56%
Grand Total	9,501	

Drug or alcohol treatment		
Sponsor Type	WDOs Approved	%
Government Agency	2,833	43.84%
Health Practitioner	410	6.34%
Not for Profit Organisation	3,128	48.41%
For Profit Organisation	91	1.41%
Grand Total	6,462	

WDO Activities Trend (Last 5 fin. years)					
Activity	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Medical or mental health treatment	6,943	8,624	9,835	9,312	9,501
Drug or alcohol treatment	8,877	9,646	9,203	7,858	6,462
Educational, vocational or life skills course	7,076	7,601	7,138	6,880	4,985
Financial or other counselling	3,422	3,444	3,523	3,253	2,733
Unpaid work	2,850	2,867	2,750	2,455	1,739
Mentoring	839	1,277	1,569	1,394	1,164

