

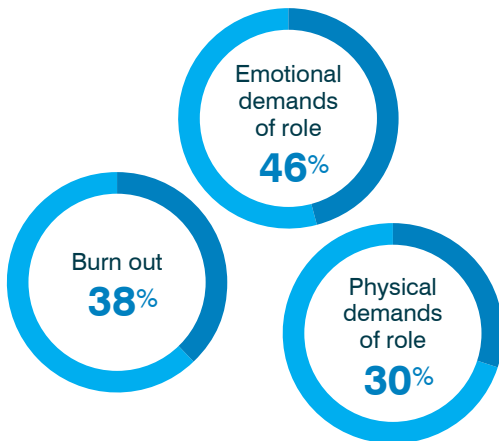
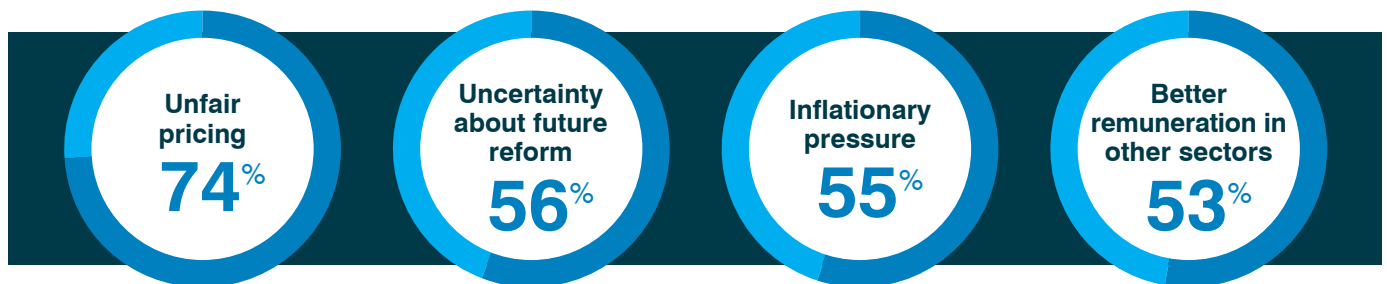
Physiotherapy in the NDIS

Action is needed to prevent a physiotherapy workforce exodus

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) price limits for physiotherapy have been frozen for five years. Despite acknowledging inflationary pressures, the 2023-24 Annual Pricing Review did not increase price limits or index them to CPI or WPI. Our member survey highlights the significant impact the price freeze is having on physiotherapy workforce sustainability and potential harmful ramifications on access to care for NDIS participants.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF PHYSIOTHERAPY WORKFORCE WITHIN THE NDIS

31% of physiotherapists are considering ceasing to provide therapy support to NDIS participants for the following reasons:



The NDIS was built to service our most vulnerable population and requires highly skilled clinicians providing evidence-based care in well-supported environments.

Physiotherapy consults billed through NDIS come with a significant administrative and cost burden that far exceeds what is required to service private clients. If the practitioner is registered, then the cost burden can be even higher.

NDIS participants may present with complex care needs, often requiring more than one health worker to provide treatment and fit-for-purpose treatment premises and specialised medical equipment.

Physiotherapists often serve as the lynchpin in a participant's multi-disciplinary team and undertake huge amounts of case liaison that is both unpaid and undervalued.

Physiotherapy is an investment in participant independence and an opportunity to reduce lifelong scheme expenditure.



PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ARE HIGHLY EXPERIENCED AND INVESTED IN NDIS THERAPY SUPPORT

67% of physiotherapists have worked in the NDIS for five or more years.

14% of physiotherapists have worked in the NDIS for four years.

NDIS participants make up 50% or more of the client base for almost half of physiotherapists providing therapy supports.

NDIS participants make up 100% and 76%-90% of the client base for 21% and 20% respectively of physiotherapists providing therapy supports.