

#### Hi everyone,

Today I will be telling you about a new way to access the Priority Investment Approach research dataset.

In the first session I will provide a short background on the data that is available and briefly introduce one way of accessing the data using TableBuilder. In the second session I will show you a few ways you can use TableBuilder by working through some examples. The second session is for those of you who are interested in a deeper understanding of how to use the dataset. You are welcome to leave after the first session if that doesn't interest you. The notes from these presentations will be available afterwards on the community grants hub website for your reference, so please don't feel that you need to remember everything!

We think the Tablebuilder tool will be very useful to a wide number of researchers as well as those applying for TTL Fund grants. I hope that this presentation will enable you to make use of this data yourself.

## How might this be relevant to your grant application for the TTL Fund?

The assessment criteria outlined in the Try Test and Learn Fund grant opportunity guidelines encourages you to provide 'evidence'

- provide evidence that the people targeted by your project are at risk of long-term welfare dependence (e.g. evidence may include Priority Investment Approach data, research, government reports, empirical evidence, etc.);
- provide evidence of the need for your project among those it would support (e.g. evidence may include **Priority Investment Approach data**, research, government reports, empirical evidence, etc.)

Access to Priority Investment Approach (PIA) Data

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Both of these examples refer to the Priority Investment Approach data as one source of evidence that you might use.

So what is the Priority Investment Approach?

The Australian Priority Investment Approach to Welfare (PIA) policy initiative was established as part of the 2015-16 Budget

#### What is it?

- The Priority Investment Approach, or PIA, uses data analysis to identify groups at risk of long-term welfare dependence and uses insights from the data to find innovative ways to help more Australians live independently, reducing their need for welfare.
- The PIA data includes administrative data collected for the purpose of recording eligibility for benefits, service delivery activities and payments.

Access to Priority Investment Approach (PIA) Data

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## The PIA data includes 14 years of information about payment recipients over 56 quarterly snapshots

#### What is in it?

- The data is a series of quarterly snapshots taken from the July-September 2001 quarter to the April-June 2015 quarter.
- The data contains information about those people who have received one of 21 benefits including Aged Pension, Disability Support Pension, Newstart Allowance and Carer Payment.
- The de-identified information includes demographic and geographical information, as well as information relating to accommodation, primary medical conditions, education and income.
- Demographic variables of the partner are also available for some of the recipients.

Access to Priority Investment Approach (PIA) Data

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## Part of the PIA policy is to provide access to the data to help improve the lives of Australians who are receiving welfare

#### Where is it?

- In September 2016 the then Minister for Social Services announced a plan to allow researchers limited access to PIA
  data
- There are three points of access that differ by level of information provided, as well as cost and ease of access.
- For example, those researchers who have a high level of skill and need more detailed information for their research, can apply for access to the secure enclave (SURE).
- For others, TableBuilder provides non-restricted access to less detailed information with free registration

Access to Priority Investment Approach (PIA) Data

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	PIA in SURE	TableBuilder	Synthetic Data
Accessibility	Applications are considered and approval based on user expertise and need for the data in context of a specific project.	Unrestricted access.	Unrestricted access.
User Access	User pays an access fee.	Free registration.	Free registration.
User Experience	Once approved, access is within a secure enclave and users will see unit record data. All analyses are run remotely within the secure enclave. Output must be approved before being taken out of SURE.	Once users log in, they are able to construct tables of aggregate data freely, without constraint. These tables can then be downloaded as .csv files without review. Users do not see the unit level record data at any stage.	Users can download the complete dataset of unit level record data to use on their own system.
Sources	AIHW secure environment	ABS Tablebuilder site	Dataverse.
Number of Variables	60	38	31
Format of Date of Birth	Rounded to the month	Rounded to the year	Rounded to the decade
Geographic Information	Country (Birth, Residence and Citizenship), State, Postcode	Country by Region (Birth and Residence), State, Postcode, Address at SA3 level	Country (Birth and Residence), Postcode.

This table is a very brief overview of the three access points for the PIA data. It shows the range of access types we have developed, to reflect the range of possible uses and users we expect to be interested in the PIA data. I would like to point out the relative accessibility of the Tablebuilder

- (i.e., free registration and unrestricted access) and also some of the key differences in how the data has been confidentialised for privacy purposes. For example, you can see there are
- less variables in TableBuilder compared to the PIA data that is available in the Secure Enclave of SURE and that the date and geographic information is less specific. For example,
- country of birth is only shown by region in TableBuilder whereas the specific country is shown in SURE.

# Who it is meant for? • Everybody • Teachers and students • Journalists • Academics • Non Government Organisations How it can be used? • Create and download both tables and graphs

Users are expected to include teachers and students in an educational context, journalists preparing data for reports, as well as academics and NGO's looking for data to use in their grant applications.

• I will provide some examples of both tables and graphs at the end of this session and we will work through how to create and download both tables and graphs in the next session.

### PIA in TableBuilder

As this data is publicly accessible, a number of steps have been taken to ensure privacy is maintained.

#### What is not in it?

**Fewer Variables** 

- 38 variables (not 60)

Less Detai

 Some variables have been modified (e.g., month and Year to Year only)

Fewer people

- A 5% sample of the population

Access to Priority Investment Approach (PIA) Data

• There are Fewer Variables. There are 38 variables in TableBuilder as opposed to the 60 that are available in the secure environment of SURE.

- There is Less Detail. Some variables have been modified, for example a date might be available as year only in TableBuilder where it is available as month and year in the secure enclave.
- There are Fewer People. TableBuilder uses a 5% sample of the original PIA dataset. This
  is large enough to provide a representative subsample of the whole population while
  maintaining individual privacy. One implication of this is that if you are reporting
  population estimates in your grant application, you will need to multiply the figures in
  the table by 20.

## Why you might be interested in using TableBuilder to access the PIA data

- TableBuilder is good for a wide range of data analysis expertise; from beginner to advanced
- TableBuilder allows for population estimates

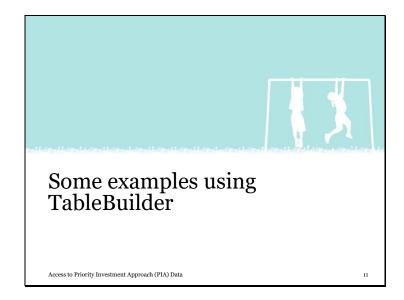
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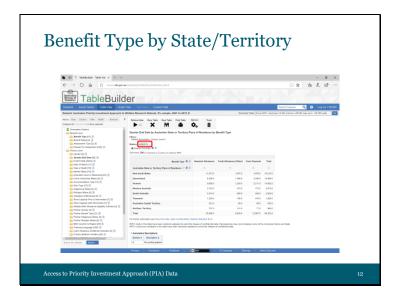
- Some people here are likely to be analysts or researchers and have experience in working with population data, perhaps even have experience with TableBuilder using other datasets
  - Some people here are likely to have no research experience and not be familiar
    with working with population data at all, and perhaps have some level of
    aversion to data.
  - Due to it's user interface, TableBuilder suits both of these populations.
- While the 5% serves to protect individual privacy, it does allow for reportable estimates that can be used in reports and grant applications.

## What can you do with TableBuilder? Get population estimates (numbers) Create graphs to display your comparisons Save and/or download tables and graphs for later use

- You can get population estimates based on a range of criteria that you can choose and manipulate
- Creating graphs and saving and downloading tables and graphs is what we will work through in the following session.



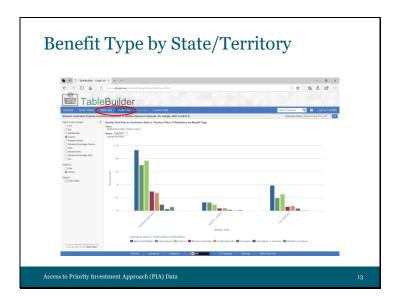
For now, I will show you just a few examples of how you might use TableBuilder.



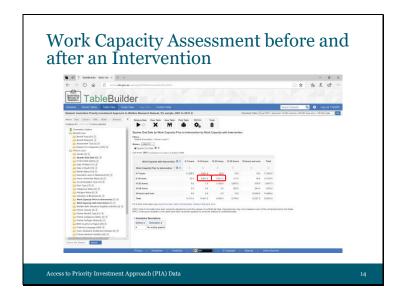
Everything you can see with TableBuilder is *always* group level or aggregate data. You will never see the individual unit level data that sits 'behind' the tables.

Here, we have a table that displays the number of recipients of three different benefit types (Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance Other and Carer Payment) across the states and territories,

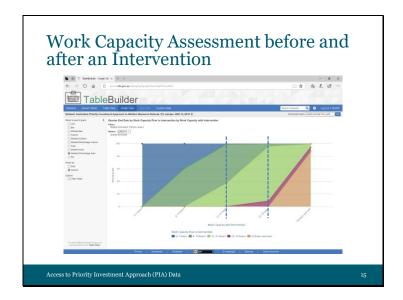
• In June 2015.



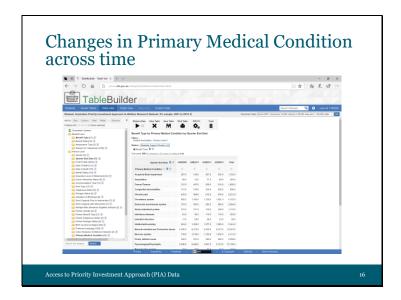
- Switching between Table View and Graph View allows you to visualise the data
- Here we can see that NSW had the highest number of recipients of Newstart Allowance and Carer Payment in the April to June quarter of 2015.



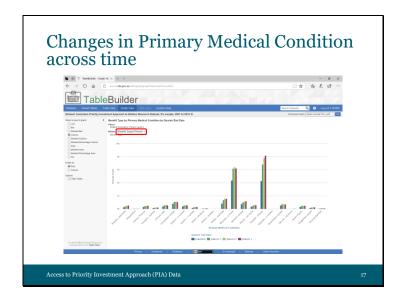
- This table presents the number of recipients in each of the work capacity assessment categories, or the number of hours recipients are considered able to work per week, prior to an intervention (vertically on the left) and with an intervention (horizontally across the top)
- For example, where a recipient was assessed as having 8-14 hours capacity prior to an
  intervention and assessed as having the same 8-14 hours capacity with an intervention,
  they are represented here
- Where a recipient was assessed as having 8-14 hours capacity prior to an intervention and then assessed as having 15-22 hours capacity with an intervention, they are represented here



- Using a different graphing option we can visually represent the trend of an increasing number of hours assessed for work capacity with an intervention.
- For example you can see that a large proportion of those who were assessed as being able to work 15-22 hours after an intervention (blue line) were assessed as being able to work 8-14 hours prior to an intervention (dark green).
- Similarly, a large proportion of those who were assessed as being able to work 23-29 hours after an intervention were assessed as being able to work 15-22 hours prior to an intervention (light green).

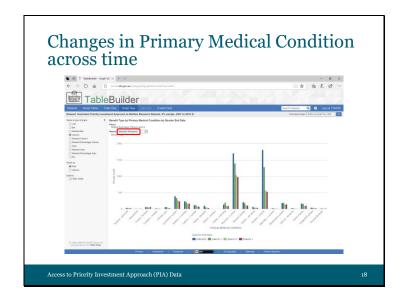


This table presents the primary medical condition for recipients of the Disability Support Pension across the April-June quarters of 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015.



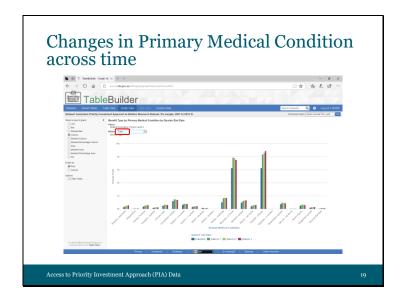
We can see here that both musculo-skeletal conditions and psychological or psychiatric conditions are the two main primary medical conditions reported by

• people receiving Disability Support Pension. By comparing across the four years, we can also see that this number is increasing for psychological or psychiatric conditions.



We can compare this to recipients of other benefit types, in this case we are looking at those receiving

• Newstart Allowance. In this case, the number of recipients with psychological or psychiatric condition as their primary medical condition is decreasing across the years.



By looking at all recipients, regardless of the type of benefit

• (using 'total' figures), we can see that the number of people whose primary medical condition is psychological or psychiatric in nature, is increasing across the years.



The following session will work through how to use TableBuilder, including some of the features and formatting options, using a number of research questions as examples. Are there any questions from this session?