



2021 / 22 Report

Ticket to Work

Pathways to decent work for young people with disability



Our Message

After enduring the turbulence of 2020 and 2021, Ticket to Work is committed to ensuring that every young person has the right to seek employment. Our mission is to ensure that all students with disability are prepared and have the opportunity to exercise that right.

2022 saw the move to a new home for Ticket to Work at the Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL). BSL works alongside people experiencing disadvantage to address the fundamental causes of poverty in Australia.

Ticket to Work wants to acknowledge the significant contribution of National Disability Services (NDS) as the previous home for Ticket to Work from 2014 to 2021. Their support enabled Ticket to Work to further its objectives of improving employment opportunities and outcomes for young people with disability.

Ticket to Work will strengthen the work of BSL's National Youth Employment Body (NYEB) to improve employment opportunities and pathways for young people with disability. The NYEB, like

Ticket to Work, enables multi-sector responses to improve youth employment and facilitates collaborative approaches.

In 2022 we saw the development of two new projects; Inclusive Pathways to Employment (IPE) to explore mainstream and investment-based employment services for young people with disability and Inclusive Career Development (ICD) which explores how to support schools to better address the career development and transition needs of their students.

Thank you to those who have supported the ambition of Ticket to Work and we look forward to further working together to achieve genuine and lasting reform so young people with disability can successfully transition from education into decent, secure and meaningful employment.



Michelle Wakeford

Senior Manager Youth Transition Disability.

Achievements over 7 years



3,756

young people commenced in career development activities

eg. work experience and work preparation activities



1,681

first jobs created

18 micro enterprise, 108 after school job, and 1,555 Australia School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship



1,330

employers across a diverse range of sectors have supported young people in their workplaces

work preparation, work experience and/or employed

*Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and various lockdowns, Ticket to Work was able to support young people with disability into employment through a collaborative approach.

2021–2022 research, evaluation and submissions

As a research led initiative with a strong focus on policy change, there is a continuing focus on researching and documenting the various elements of the Ticket to Work model, and the experiences of different stakeholders such as parents and employers.

The overarching aim is to identify what works and what needs improving, and to advocate for all young people with disability so they have access to evidence-based support during transition from school to work.

Our papers

All our research papers can be found at:

tickettowork.org.au/research

Our submissions to Government over 2021–2022

[New Disability Employment Support Model](#)

[Transition to Work and young people with disability](#)

[National Disability Employment Strategy consultation paper](#)

[Vocational and Applied Learning Pathways in Senior Secondary Schooling: the Firth Report and the Victorian Government's Response](#)

All our submissions can be found at:

tickettowork.org.au/submissions



Summary of Participant Outcomes 2014–2020

The Centre for Social Impact Swinburne have prepared a report which presents a compilation of the outcomes of Ticket to Work networks and our partner organisations.

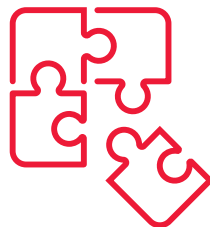
The data was collected through both surveys to participants and their families/ guardians through organisational partners. There was a total number of 1,379 respondents. In addition, it presents an analysis of the employment outcomes of participating young people and some of the predictors of employment outcomes. The results demonstrate the high-level activity participation rates of young people in Ticket to Work and subsequent higher employment outcomes relative to normative rates for this population group.

Ticket to Work Participants details and employment (aggregated data over 4 years)



48%

of Ticket to Work participants had an intellectual disability and out of those 53% gained paid employment



39%

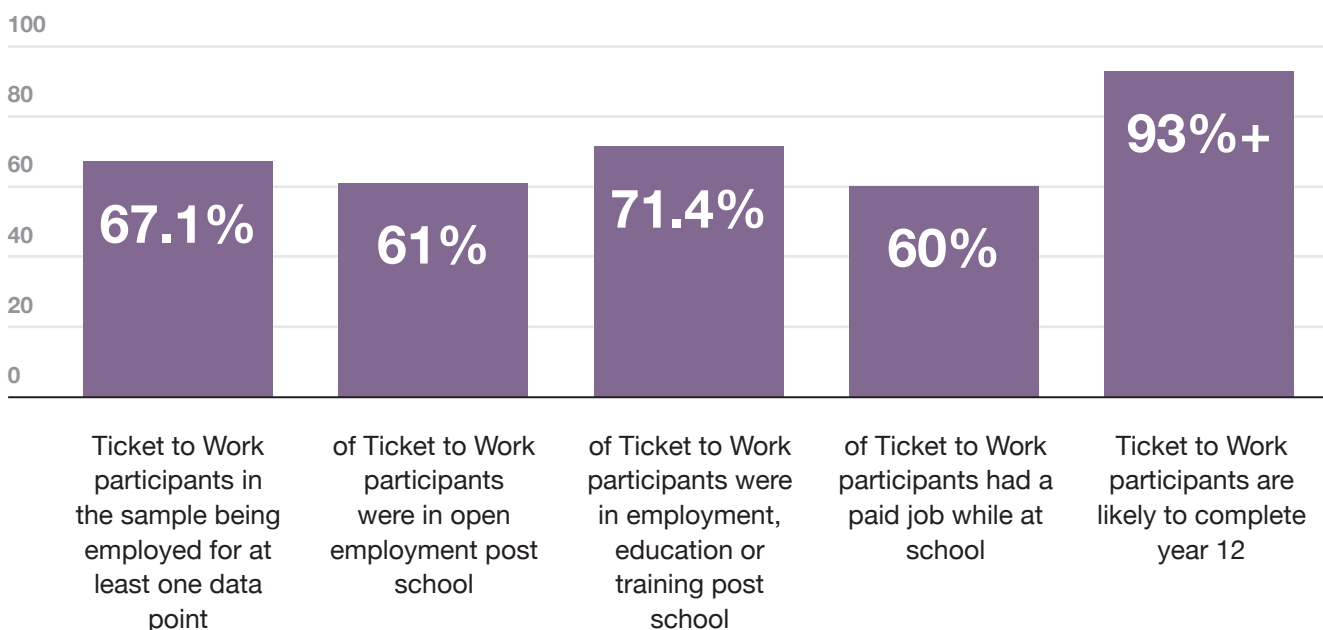
of Ticket to Work participants had autism spectrum disorder and out of those 82% gained paid employment



69%

of Ticket to Work participants were male, though the employment outcomes were similar between genders; Female 65% and Male 67%

Education and employment



Ticket to Work 10-year anniversary



Ticket to Work celebrated its ten-year anniversary! From humble beginnings, including not having funding for the first two years, the initiative has been sustained by community's grassroots grit and determination to do better when supporting young people with disability.

Ticket to Work's aim has always been to demonstrate how better pathways to employment can be created for young people with disability. Ticket to Work has supported over 1,600 young people into their first job.

Ten years on, Ticket to Work continues to be mission focused. We thank the communities, network members, investors, researchers and of course the young people and their families for making this possible, and we look forward to continuing the evolving Ticket to Work journey for many years to come.

[Read story here](#)



We caught up with one of original national Ticket to Work networks to hear their story.

The Geelong Region Local Learning and Employment Network (GRLLEN) joined the national Ticket to Work initiative in 2013, by establishing its own stakeholder network, originally called the Ticket to Work Geelong network, now known as the Geelong Inclusion Network (GIN), and the group hasn't looked back.

While the GRLLEN coordinates GIN it doesn't view itself as the 'owner' of it. "GIN is comprised of passionate and dedicated members who share a common view, offer various opportunities for knowledge acquisition and transfer, identify gaps, and embrace creative visions to maintain its ongoing sustainability.

After over a decade of the GIN operating, it's garnered that when a scaffolded approach to employment engagement is taken by schools, family members, employers and support organisations a catalyst for young peoples' success is more likely.

Wayne Elliott, CEO of GRLLEN stated the impact that Ticket to Work is having in the Greater Geelong region. "Ticket to Work's model, initiatives, effort to stamp out stigma, and national advocacy are central for the GIN, and we enjoy collaborating with its incredible team. Ticket to Work really is leading the way in terms of increasing employment for young people with disability, and we feel fortunate to be part of their Australia-wide push for policy reform in that space," remarked Wayne.

[Read full story here](#)

What's next for Ticket to Work

Ticket to Work's new home at Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL) has brought two new initiatives that will help continue our mission to ensure that all young people with disability are prepared and have opportunities and pathways to decent work.

With support from Paul Ramsay Foundation the Inclusive pathways to Employment (IPE) initiative will work directly with the mainstream youth employment service Transition to Work providers in four communities to test an inclusive model of Transition to Work using evidence informed practice. This will enable the collection of evidence to understand which elements of the model are most crucial for success and which contextual issues can affect outcomes. From January 2023 to June 2025 BSL will support Transition to Work providers to implement the IPE practice model and assist providers to support over 1800 young people with disability.

With support from Gandel Foundation, we have partnered with The Australian Centre for Career Education (ACCE) and University of Newcastle to embark on an Inclusive Career Development project.

The project aims to develop career education tools which are underpinned by research, to enable Australian schools to better support their students with disability. The tools provide effective and sustainable ways to support school to work transition and career development for students with disability.

Over the past ten years, Ticket to Work has developed an intensive amount of resources and research. We want to provide a system and mechanisms to share knowledge so that we don't duplicate sectoral efforts and provide mechanisms to come together on what is a challenging problem. We will support social impact networks to ensure genuine and lasting reform, so young people with disability can successfully transition from education into decent, secure and meaningful employment.

To keep updated with what's happening:

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What people are saying about Ticket to Work

The quotes below are from young people who took part in Ticket to Work

Emily I know what it's like having a job, so when I want to get another job, I know what it's like and I don't have to be all worried and everything. I can just go, "Oh yeah, I'll get a job here."

Jack I want to be my own boss and to show people that even if you have a disability you can still make something important out of your life.

Phillip Ticket to Work has definitely benefited me, and helped me to become even more independent, you know, going to work on time, definitely I have been more independent ever since I first started. So it's given me a lot more confidence in myself, so I've got to thank Ticket to Work for that.

Ryan Getting out in the real world has definitely been such an amazing thing. Ever since I've started, from school until now, I think I've learned quite a lot, and I'm willing to learn new things down the track.

Bella I feel really proud and privileged to have these opportunities to be working, because it gives me the incentive that I am on the right track and doing the right thing in life. I'm working and making a living for myself. I'm slowly starting to take steps in setting myself up for life, for eventually later on down the track for when you want to start a life on your own, when you want to buy your first house. And this is what all these little steps at a time really helps you do. It's all about setting you up for life, and putting you on the right track, and making a living for yourself.

Maddie I definitely would have not progressed this far if it wasn't for School based traineeship or Ticket to Work.

[See our quotes here](#)



Our Supporters

Ticket to Work is funded through the generous support of philanthropic organisations and by the Victorian Government. We are grateful to these partners for supporting us to achieve our mission.

[Subscribe to our newsletter here](#)

For more information, visit tickettowork.org.au