

Table 1. Number of Cashless Debit Card (CDC) participants by original CDC location as at 3 March 2023¹

Cashless Debit Card region	Income Support Payment													Total Participants	Per cent Indigenous
	Abstudy (Living Allowance)	Austudy	Carer Payment	Disability Support Pension	JobSeeker Payment	Parenting Payment Partnered	Parenting Payment Single	Partner Allowance	Special Benefit	Widow Allowance	Youth Allowance	Other Payments ⁴			
Ceduna region SA	0	0	<5	11	9	0	<5	0	0	0	0	0	23	61%	
East Kimberley region WA	0	0	9	25	66	5	17	0	0	0	9	5	136	90%	
Goldfields region WA	0	0	<5	16	25	<5	<5	0	0	0	0	<5	50	46%	
Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region QLD	0	0	0	0	20	0	n.p.	0	0	0	<5	0	31	29%	
Cape York region QLD ²	0	0	<5	10	59	7	18	0	0	0	<5	13	112	95%	
Northern Territory ³	0	0	<5	26	2,641	371	575	0	<5	0	170	6	3,793	82%	

Table 2. Community panel (or body) decisions to change restricted portion of income support payment as at 3 March 2023

Community panels (Section 124PK of the Act), or community bodies, operate in the Ceduna SA region and the East Kimberley WA region, with the East Kimberley region having two community panels operating in Kununurra and Wyndham. The number of applications and the number of decisions may not be the same as sometimes people withdraw their application, or a decision may not have been made on an application at the time of extracting the data.

Community Panel (Body) decisions	Applications	Approved		Not Approved	
		Number	Per cent Indigenous	Number	Per cent Indigenous
Ceduna region SA	191	148	56%	43	67%
East Kimberley region WA	52	15	n.p.	37	n.p.

Table 3. When someone is not subject to cashless welfare arrangements:

Well-Being Exemptions (Section 124PHA of the Act) as at 3 March 2023

If being a Cashless Debit Card program participant would pose a serious risk to a person's mental, physical or emotional wellbeing, the Secretary of the Department of Social Services (or delegate) can provide the person with an exemption from participating in the program. This is known as a well-being exemption.

Well-Being Exemptions	Applications	Approved		Not Approved	
		Number	% Indigenous	Number	Per cent Indigenous
Ceduna region SA	49	36	18%	13	46%
East Kimberley region WA	56	37	57%	19	47%
Goldfields region WA	203	136	20%	67	24%
Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region Qld	111	64	23%	47	17%
Northern Territory	<5	<5	0%	<5	n.p.

Table 4. When someone is not subject to cashless welfare arrangements:

Exits (Section 124PBH of the Act) as at 3 March 2023

A person can apply to exit the program if they can demonstrate reasonable and responsible management of their affairs, including financial affairs, in accordance with the criteria set out in the legislation.

Exits	Applications	Approved		Not Approved		Withdrawn ⁶	
		Number	Per cent Indigenous	Number	Per cent Indigenous	Number	Per cent Indigenous
Ceduna region SA	424	45	29%	78	59%	301	47%
East Kimberley region WA	578	40	37%	125	75%	413	48%
Goldfields region WA	1,486	224	12%	319	44%	943	30%
Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region QLD	2,958	402	9%	487	17%	2,069	17%
Northern Territory	356	13	n.p.	15	60%	328	38%
Not Eligible to Apply ⁵	37	0	0%	0	0%	37	54%

Notes

1. Table 1 only shows CDC participants actively receiving a trigger payment by location. Participants not receiving a trigger payment due to temporary or permanent cancellation, transition between payment types or having recently aged out of eligibility for their CDC region at the time of data extraction are not included in the data.
2. Participants in the Cape York region were transitioned from Income Management onto the CDC based on referral arrangements managed by the Family Responsibilities Commission (FRC).
3. Prior to 1 August 2022 Income Management participants in the Northern Territory could choose to transition to the CDC.
4. Individuals in the 'other payments' column are not on a category P payment and may have volunteered to be on the CDC program (section 124PH of the Act), or placed on by referral from the FRC.
5. 'Not eligible to Apply' – These applications were submitted by individuals who are not on the CDC program, or who have volunteered and may exit at any time, or who are under referral from the FRC and therefore not eligible to exit the program in this way.
6. 'Withdrawn' also includes applications from participants who were no longer eligible for the exit process at the time of decision, for reasons such as no longer being on the program.