

ASU ANALYSIS

BEHIND THE HEADLINES: BUDGET 2022



9 years of cuts, neglect and cruelty

An overview of previous Liberal Government Budgets



A TIME LINE OF CRUEL CUTS

2014: LNP take government and implement massive and devastating cuts across community services

2015: more cuts and attacks on vulnerable people

2016: Government de-funds Equal Pay for community workers. Direct attack on wages of community sector

2017: Government opens door to profit making in essential services

2018: \$80 billion for corporations, nothing for community services

2019: Scott Morrison starts his attack on the NDIS

2020: The first COVID budget

2021: No pay increase in sight, no long-term secure funding



ASU BUDGET PRIORITIES 2022

- 
- Restore previous budget cuts
 - Commit to long term sector funding
 - Establish a fair Price Floor
 - Implement 10 Days Paid Family Domestic Violence Leave
 - Fund Portable Entitlements for disability and community workers
 - Prioritise safer workplaces (PPE and Paid Isolation Leave)
 - Long Term Support for women's safety
 - Deliver real wage raises
 - Genuine assistance with cost of living
 - Close the gender pay gap

What We Got

An overview of previous Liberal Government Budgets



No Wage Rises

This government have promised wage rises on 55 occasions on different wage forecasts, and on 52 occasions, they have failed to deliver.

We have had nine years of this government and nine years of workers' wages being stagnant.



Forecast wages growth in the federal budget from 2014 onwards

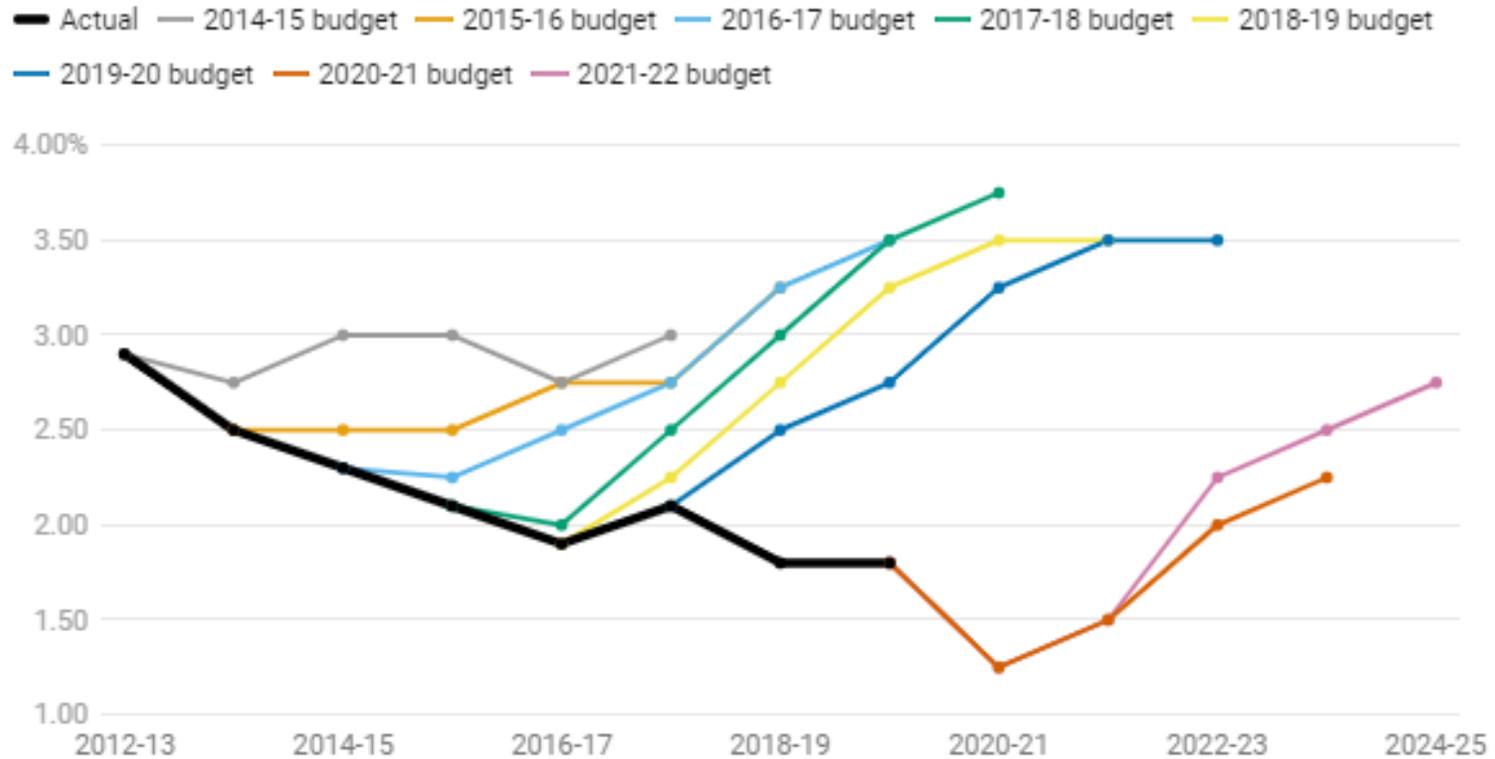


Chart: ABC News • Source: ABS, Budget papers • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

No Wage Rises

The budget forecasts wage growth of 2.75 per cent in 2021-22, below inflation which is forecast to grow by 4.25 per cent. **That's a real wage cut of 1.5 per cent.**

In the budget we got nothing to provide a pay rise for community and disability workers. The Government could have done this by supporting a rise in FWC, and committing to lifting funding to cover the wage increases.

We need pay rises, not one-off payments. Costs of housing, childcare, petrol, food are not one-off costs.



No Long Term Funding

There is nothing to provide long term secure funding for community services.

You may have seen reported that there is an increase in funding to women's services.

Did you know that this is short term funding and the Budget says in 3 years funding to DV services will be halved?



No help with living with COVID

There is nothing to provide support for community and disability services in “living with COVID”.

Cases are skyrocketing and yet nothing about implementing paid isolation leave. The Government’s COVID isolation payments are set to expire.

Also the Government’s funding of PPE and RATs in our sector set to expire in June.



No help with the NDIS

There is nothing to address significant cuts to NDIS.

It was just reported this week that NDIA data shows an average **4% cut to every NDIS plan** in the last 12 months.

This is bad for participants and workers. There is nothing to address this in the Budget.



No support for advocacy

There is nothing to provide much needed funding for advocacy, homelessness, mental health, community legal and other service funding that have experienced 9 years of cuts under this conservative government.



Across the budget

A look at more analysis



Paid Parental Leave

Economist Alison Pennington writes:

A new paid parental leave (PPL) scheme will combine the paltry two-week Dad and Partner Pay with the existing 18-week program for a combined 20 weeks. Packaged as empowering “family choice”, **it will remove any incentive for fathers to take leave.**

The Sydney Morning Herald

New paid parental leave measures not quite what expectant family wanted



Women's Safety

“The Morrison government wants us to believe that they will take Women's Safety seriously. The budget shows a **short-term sugar hit in the coming year, just in time for an election.**

But in each & every year after that, in real terms the budget allocation to women's safety declines.”

- Senator Jenny McAllister



People with Disability Australia

Australia's peak disability rights and advocacy organisation has criticised the Federal Government for not providing better support for people with disability in the 2022 Budget.

PWDA President Samantha Connor: "We're very disappointed with the outcome of the 2022 Federal Budget for people with disability. This budget is a lean, mean budget for people with disability, their families and carers."



Older Women's Network NSW

The Federal Government expects all aged care workers to continue to work their guts out & be poorly paid because quite frankly, they don't care about the elderly nor the workers. What other logical conclusion can we draw from the budget?



NATSILS

Fail for First Nations justice.

It is a **CUT in real terms to funding** for Aboriginal family violence prevention and legal services.

No additional funding for legal assistance services or peak justice body will further see our people disproportionately overrepresented in the criminal legal system.



Climate Change

This budget hands out more than \$37 billion for coal, oil and gas while the climate crisis worsens and floods ravage QLD and Northern NSW.

- Senator Mehreen Faruqi





ACOSS

The **Disaster Payment** remains at **\$1,000**, when it should be permanently tripled.

The **budget ends the Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment** in June, which will hurt lowest-paid workers without access to sick leave.

The **free Rapid Antigen Tests for concession card holders will end**, despite them being in greatest need of support.



Australian Education Union

The Morrison Government has **slashed funding for public schools by \$559 million** in his Federal Budget, while funding for private schools has increased by \$2.6 billion over the forward estimates.



Community & Public Sector Union

The budget has revealed a **further large cut, around 9%, to the Services Australia** workforce.

A shocking decision at a time Australians battling natural disasters and the pandemic need more support.



Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation

Exhausted nurses and aged care workers, beyond the point of burn out, simply cannot continue without the resources they desperately need to do their job and keep the community safe and well. **The Government has once again failed to do its job**, compromising the health of all Australians.

Despite chronic staffing shortages, the devastation of COVID and the disgraceful lack of respect for older Australians, Mr Morrison's Budget shows that playing politics, not fixing aged care, is his Government's top priority.



National Tertiary Education Union

The Morrison Government has inflicted budget carnage on higher education with more funding cuts.

Funding per student has been slashed by 5.4% in real terms over next year & 3.6% in following 2 years.

This is a shocking **\$3 billion lost** from 2017-18 to 2025-26.



Cutting through the spin

Band aids, bribes and pork barrels





**The Budget magic show full of
bogus tricks and illusions**

**“ON
THE JOB”**

THIS THE MORRISON
BUDGET 2022
**IS ABOUT
HIS JOB
NOT YOURS.**



Cost of Living Crisis

Price rises in 2021 on Morrison's watch

 Petrol	 32.3%
 Housing	 21.7%
 Transport	 12.5%
 Beef	 8%
 Childcare	 6.5%
 Vegetables	 6%
 Medical	 4.2%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

ACTU President Michele O'Neil

“Bills are not once off, that’s why once off bribes don’t cut it. Only wage increases make a difference. Nothing is in this budget delivers real wage increases. All we have is one off payments that will be quickly eaten up.”

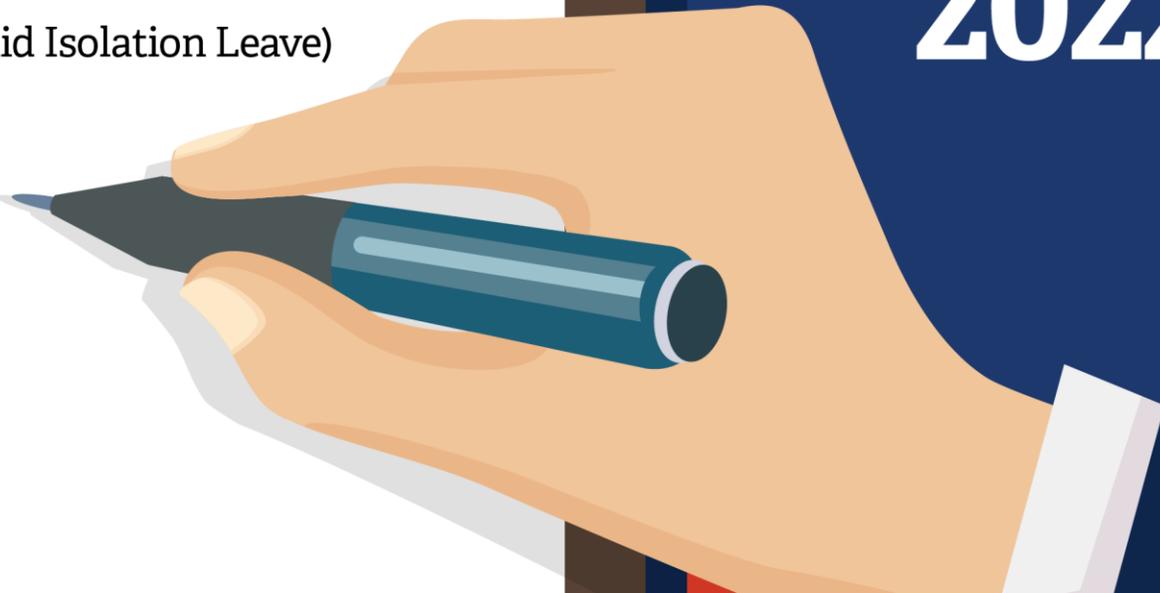


Where to from here

What next for ASU members



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What next?

We can change the score card.

There is a federal election in May. This is an opportunity to raise our concerns at the highest levels and get the community on board our campaigns.

Spread the word in your workplace & organise a meeting to talk about our plan for a better funded and supported sector, with decent wage increases and more permanent reliable jobs for members.

Book a workplace meeting today.

www.asumembers.org.au/request_a_workplace_visit



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