



2021

Public Opinion Poll on Health & Medical Research & Innovation

Since 2003

**RESEARCH
AUSTRALIA**
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FOREWORD

The 2021 Opinion Poll is our second poll during this COVID-19 pandemic. Health and medical research continues to be at the forefront of our response to the disease, as we race to vaccinate our population and the world, and learn how to deal with it in the meantime. It has also shaped the questions we have asked in this survey, as we seek to understand how COVID-19 has affected people's attitudes to research, to Australian Government funding priorities and to donations for research.

While health and medical research is always in the top 10 funding priorities for the Australian Government, it is perhaps no surprise that in a pandemic, funding for research has been elevated to Priority no.3, behind funding for hospitals and education. More than a third of Australians told us they think funding for health and medical research is more important now than they thought before the pandemic began. In other signs of the influence of COVID-19, many people are reporting being more interested in health and medical research than they were pre COVID, and this interest is affecting donation intentions. Nearly one in ten told us they already donate to health and medical research and are likely to donate more in the future, and nearly 15% told us they haven't donated in the past but are more likely to do so in the future.

On other COVID related news, support for vaccines remains strong, as does the willingness of Australians to participate in clinical trials.

Aged care was also a major issue in Australia in the last 12 months and we have evidence of strong support from the public for reform. More trained staff, modernising facilities and research are all popular options for improving the standard of aged care in Australia. Australians are also confident about contributing their opinions to direct funding for health and medical research although most remain uncertain how to do so.

This is just a small selection of the findings in our latest Opinion Poll, which Research Australia has conducted annually since 2003, and I invite you to take the time to learn a little more about what Australians (and Australian voters!) think about health and medical research and its role in Australia's economy and society.



Nadia Levin
CEO and Managing Director
September 2021



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The polling for this report was generously conducted by Roy Morgan Research, a Research Australia Member.



ROY
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"Roy Morgan is proud to partner with Research Australia on this important research"



Michele Levine,
CEO of Roy Morgan Research

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AUSTRALIANS' TOP 10 PRIORITIES FOR THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

The Australian Government is responsible for funding so many of the services we rely on, and the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the crucial role Government spending plays in supporting individuals, businesses and the economy. We asked Australians about their priorities for the Australian Government.

THE TOP 10 ARE PROVIDED BELOW.



1

89.4%

Improving hospitals and the health care system



2

84.8%

Improving education standards and outcomes



3

83.5%

More funding for health and medical research



4

82.5%

Helping the environment in practical ways



5

82.4%

Providing strong leadership



6

81.5%

Improving national infrastructure, including roads, rail, ports, electricity, airports and water quality and supply



7

81.1%

Increasing funding and programs for preventive health care



8

80.1%

Having policies and programs for the aged and ageing, including for pensioners and self-funded retirees



9

80.0%

More focus and funding for scientific research and development



10

79.6%

Improving employment opportunities

Of the top 10 three are health related

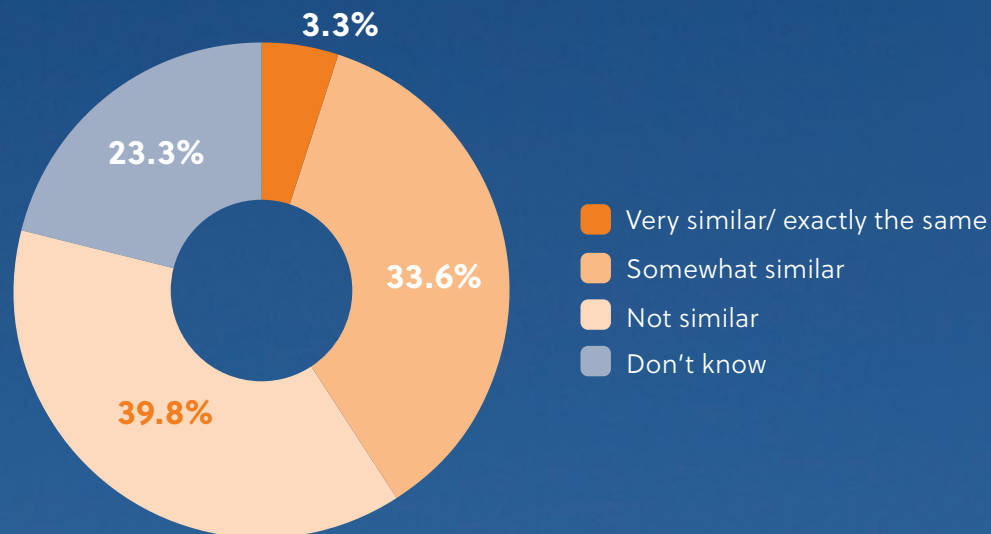
- Improving hospitals and the healthcare system is No.1. and has been in every annual poll since 2003. It is no surprise that it remains the top priority in the middle of a pandemic.
- More funding for health and medical research is number 3.
- Increasing funding and programs for preventive healthcare is also in the top 10, at number 9.

Respondents were shown 27 spending priorities for Australian Government action and asked to rank them from zero (not important) to 10 (extremely important). The scores reflect the top 10 with a score of 7 or above.

Since Research Australia commenced its annual polling in 2003, more funding for health and medical research has always been in the top 10.

3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	9th	10th
2021 2010 2003	2011 2009	2007 2006	2019 2018 2015 2013 2008 2005	2017 2016	2014 2012	2020

We asked Australians how closely the Government's spending priorities were aligned to their own.



We also asked Australians if COVID-19 had changed their views on the importance of funding for health and medical research. 38.7% told us that they now think funding for health and medical research is

more important than they thought previously, 57.6% reported their view was unchanged, and a tiny minority (3.7%) believe it less important than they thought previously.

FUNDING THE PIPELINE OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

Health and medical research can be thought of as a pipeline.

Basic (also called fundamental) scientific research is research aimed at generating new ideas, principles or theories and increasing our knowledge of the world around us. In health and medical research, it is focused on understanding things like how our immune system functions and the effects on our bodies of different diseases. Applied research takes this knowledge and seeks to use it; in health and medical research this includes influencing the way our bodies work.

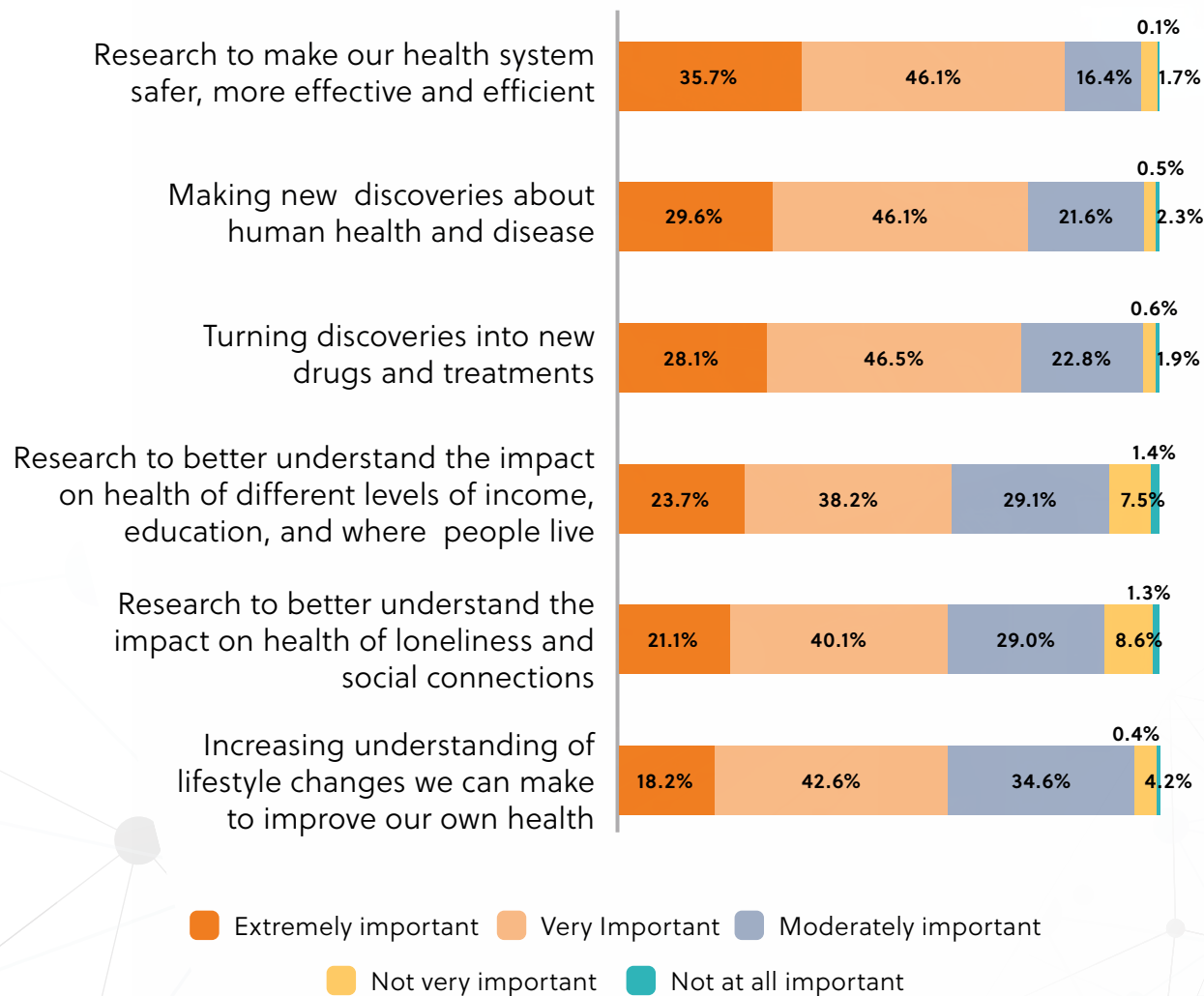
For example, can we use our knowledge of how the immune system works to help it respond better to a particular disease?

Translational research takes these new understandings and techniques and turns them into new products and ways of doing things, like new vaccines or treatments, or improving the ways we provide care.

We wanted to understand where Australians thought more funding for health and medical research was needed most. While all the options we provided received support from a majority of respondents, there were some clear favourites. Funding to improve our health system was the clear leader, followed by research to make new discoveries and to turn discoveries into new drugs and treatments. The responses show strong support for both basic research (making discoveries) and for applying and translating this knowledge.



In relation to more funding for health and medical research, please rate the importance of more government funding for research in the following areas.



Note: All the survey questions and response options are provided on page 28.

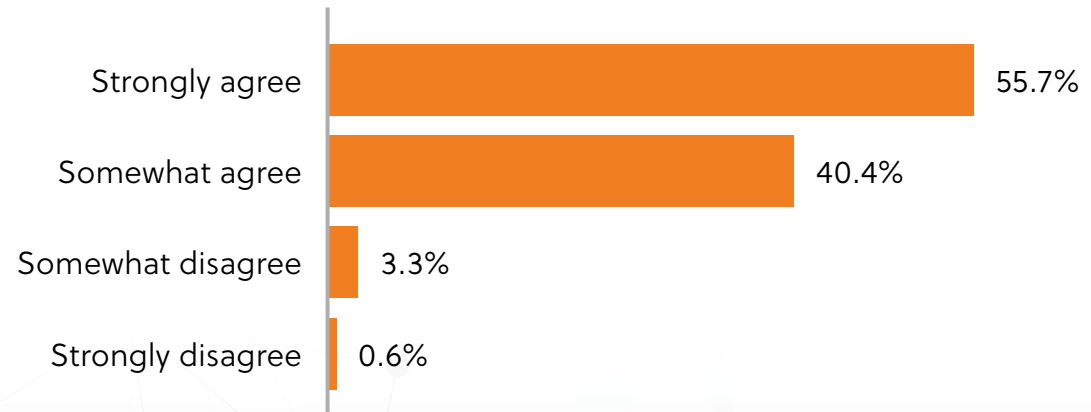


FUNDING THE PIPELINE OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH cont.

This level of support for basic research was also demonstrated by the response to another question. We specifically asked people whether they thought that even if it brings no immediate benefits, basic scientific research that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the Federal Government. Over half strongly agreed and a further 4 in 10 agreed somewhat. Fewer than 4% were not supportive.

Basic research can often seem abstract, and far from any impact on our day to day lives. It is great to see that Australians understand its importance and are supportive of ongoing funding.

Even if it brings no immediate benefits, basic scientific research that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the Federal Government



LEVEL OF INTEREST IN HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

Health and medical research has never been more in the news than it has since the start of 2020.

The pandemic has thrust scientists onto our screens and into the media, talking about how the disease spreads, news on new vaccines and helping map the pathway out of this pandemic. We suspected that people were more interested in health and medical research because of COVID-19 but wanted to know for sure.

Our hunch was correct. Nearly 4 in 10 (39.7%) told us they are more interested in health and medical research than they were before the pandemic began.

However, when we asked people about their level of interest in health and medical research, a question we also asked in our 2014 and 2018 polls, the results were more mixed.

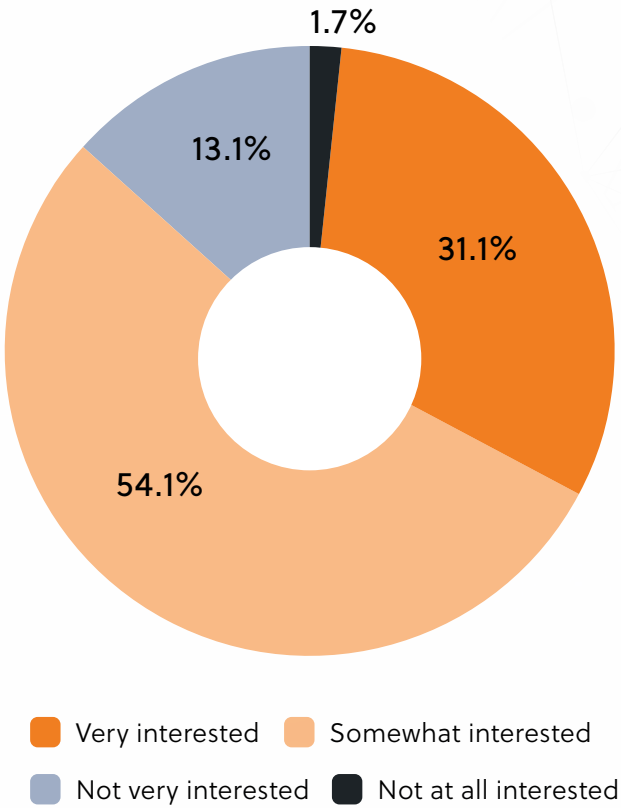
In this year’s poll, nearly a third of Australians told us they are very interested in health and medical research and a little more than half are somewhat interested.

While these numbers are higher than when we first asked the question in 2014, they are lower than the responses in 2018.

	2014	2018	2021
Very interested	28%	41%	31%
Somewhat Interested	58%	48%	54%

Women (35.6%) are more likely to be very interested than men (26.5%) and the greatest interest is among those aged 65 and over, where 41.5% are very interested.

How interested are you in health and medical research?



REASONS FOR SUPPORTING HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

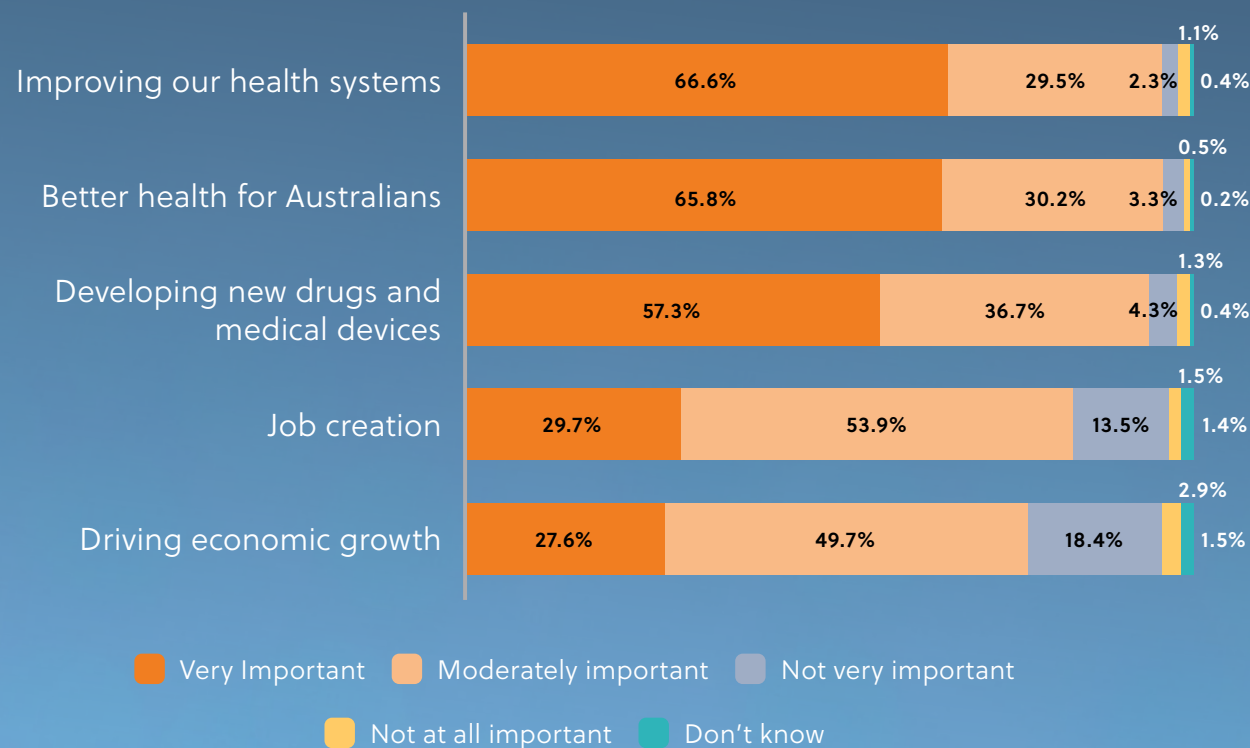
Health and medical research and the development of new medicines and treatments attracts around \$8 billion in spending in Australia each year.

It is conducted in hospitals, universities and specialist medical research institutes, by government organisations, and by private companies, both large and small. It directly creates jobs and generates exports as well as improving our health.

We wanted to know if Australians understand and value the different ways in which health and medical research contributes to our health and our economy, by asking them to rate the importance of a range of different benefits. It is clear that while better health comes first, the economic benefits of health and medical research are also recognised.

The results are very similar to the last time we asked this question, in 2017.

In relation to more funding for health and medical research, please rate the importance of more government funding for research in the following areas.



RESEARCH, YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION AND THE HEALTH SYSTEM

11

While health and medical research relies on us as taxpayers and consumers for funding, there are many other ways we can contribute.

More than any other area of research, health and medical research is about us. As such, it depends on information from individuals to increase our understanding of human health and sickness, and to develop new treatments. This includes information from individuals about what makes them sick, what makes them better, and how people respond to different environments. The advances in medical research that we enjoy today have all relied on contributions to research made by people in the past, and tomorrow's advances rely on us continuing to participate in research.

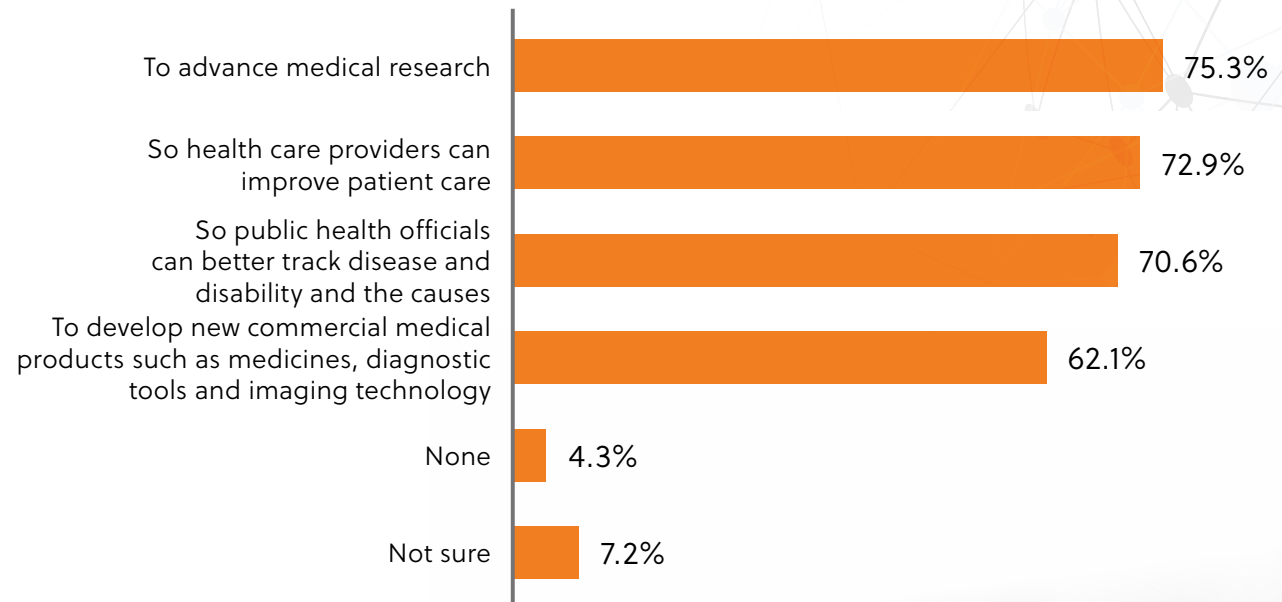
We asked Australians about the purposes for which they would be willing to share personal health information if they could not be individually identified. Nearly 9 in 10 are prepared to do so for at least one the of the reasons provided.

More than three quarters are prepared to share their health information to advance medical research, and nearly as many are willing to do so to improve patient care.

More than 7 in 10 are willing to provide their information to help track diseases and disability.

Nearly two thirds are willing to share their information to develop new commercial products like medicines.

For which would you be willing to share your personal health information?



Note: All the survey questions and response options are provided on page 26.

Clinical trials are a very practical way in which Australians can participate in research.

Clinical trials are translational research, undertaken to determine if a new treatment is safe and effective. The COVID pandemic has raised awareness of clinical trials. The progress of vaccines through clinical trials has attracted widespread attention in the media, as have trials to test both new and existing drugs for their effectiveness as a therapy for COVID-19 patients.

More than 100 clinical trials are registered every month in Australia.¹ The reasons why people participate in clinical trials are varied, as are the circumstances in which they are offered. We asked several questions about clinical trial participation to explore these issues further.

Firstly, we asked people about whether they would be willing to participate in a clinical trial if they needed treatment for a condition and it might help them.

The most common response, from more than 4 in 10, was that they would need more information to be able to make a decision. Very sensible!

Nearly half answered that they would definitely or probably agree. Only 5% were inclined to not participate, with 3% not sure.

When we last asked this question in 2017, more people were willing to participate, with 56% indicating they would definitely or probably do so, and 38% indicating they would need more information.

If you required treatment and were asked to participate in a clinical trial of a new medical treatment would you agree to be involved?



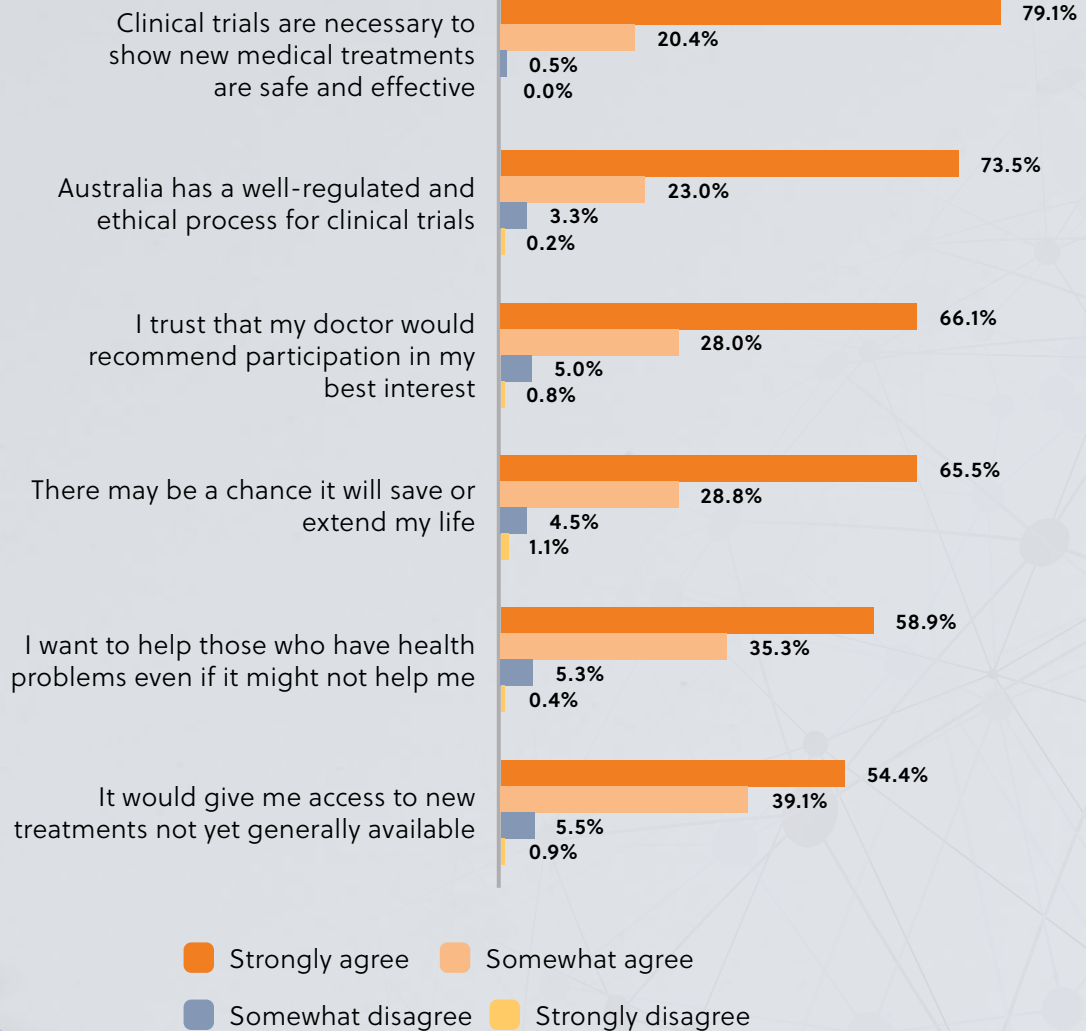
¹ <https://www.anzctr.org.au/Support/Statistics.aspx>



For our next question we asked about the reasons for considering participating in a clinical trial, after excluding the people who told us they would probably or definitely not agree.

While self interest is clearly a factor, it is not necessarily the strongest motivation, as the results show. Generally wanting to support clinical trials is a strong motivation, as is confidence in Australia's clinical trials system.

The results are very similar to our 2017 poll.

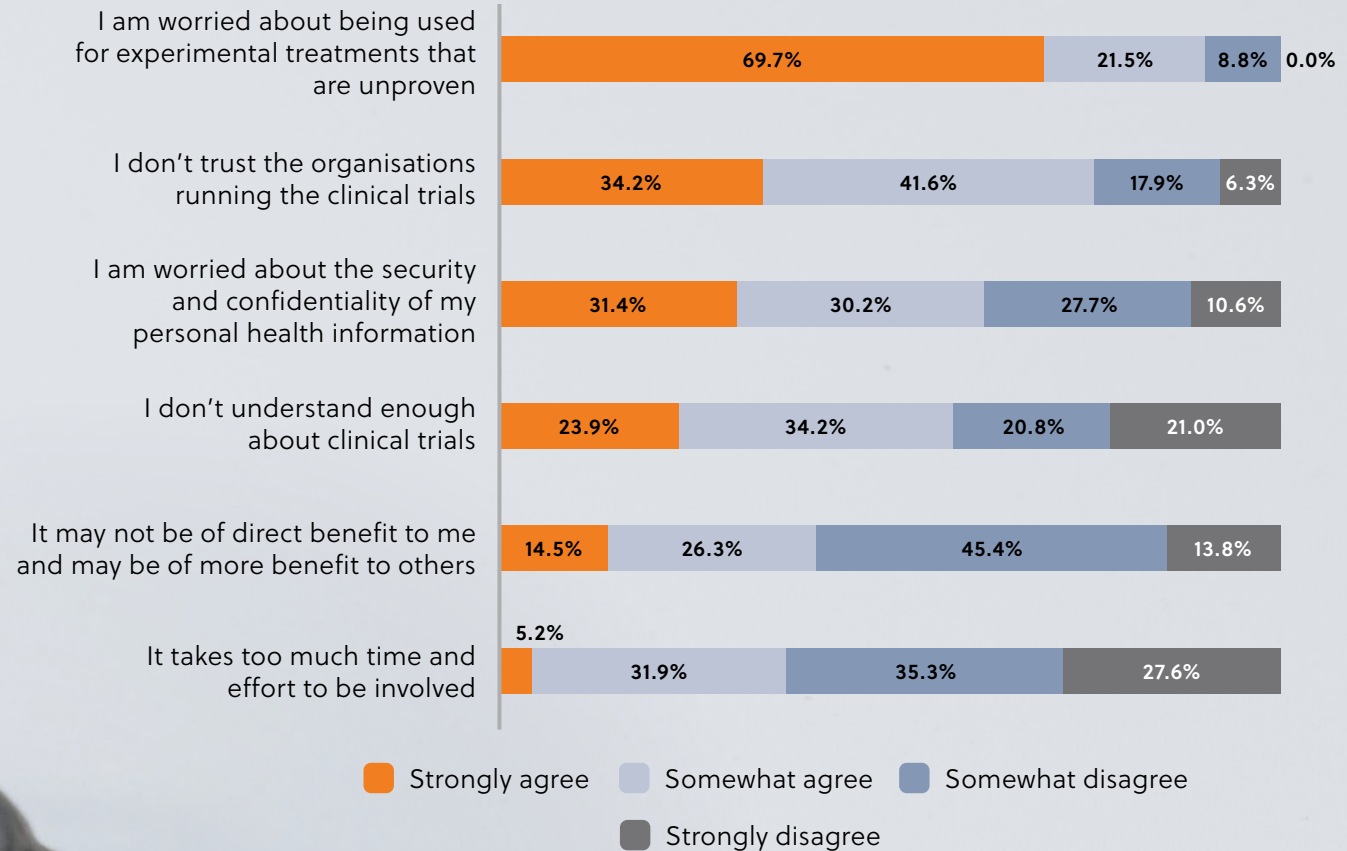


Note: All the survey questions and response options are provided on page 28.

14 CLINICAL TRIALS cont.

We also wanted to know what reasons motivated the small number of people (just under 5%) who indicated they probably or definitely wouldn't participate in a clinical trial.

The experimental nature of clinical trials is overwhelmingly the most important consideration for this group, followed by a lack of trust and concerns about the security and confidentiality of their personal health information.

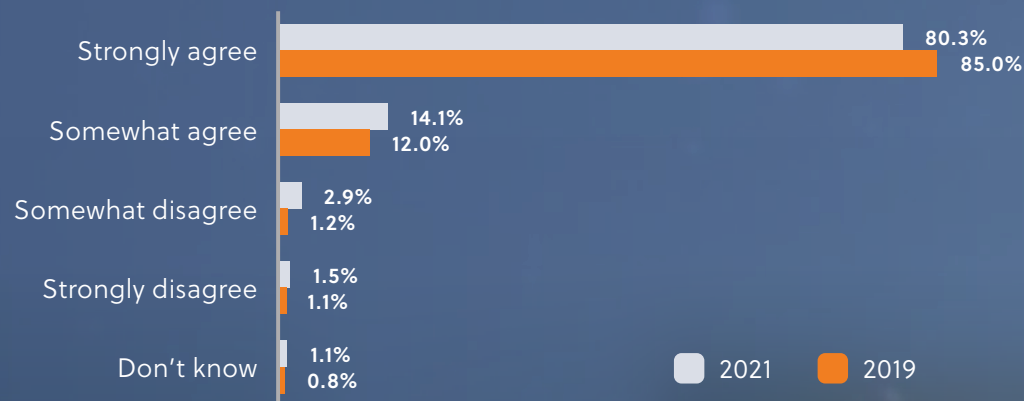


We all know that vaccines are our way out of COVID-19. For much of the last year our news has been full of talk of vaccines.

First, it was how long it would take before a vaccine would be available; then we watched as some vaccines succeeded and others failed in clinical trials. The focus then turned to how soon we could receive vaccines, who should get them first, how effective they would be, and potential side effects.

In this context we decided to ask some questions about vaccines which we last asked in 2019 before anyone knew about COVID-19 and before vaccines were constantly in the news. Has COVID-19 changed Australians' attitudes to vaccines?

I support people being vaccinated



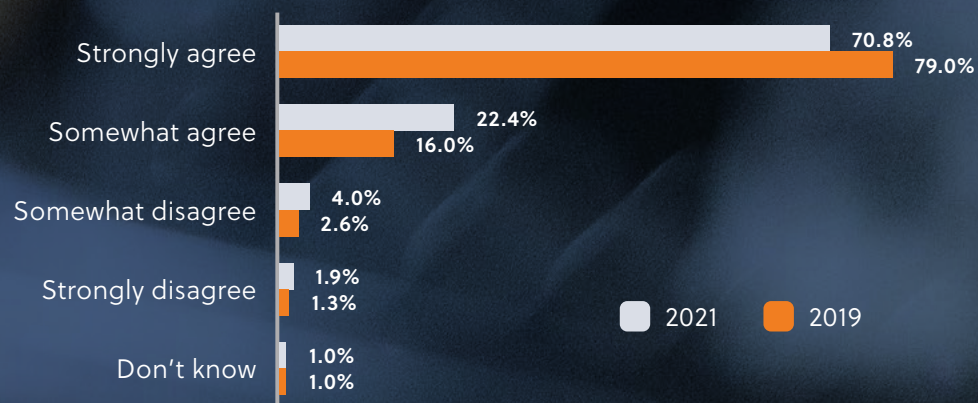
Note: All the survey questions and response options are provided on page 28.

Overall, the responses to all three questions demonstrate continuing strong support for vaccines, but people are not quite as positive about vaccines as they were two years ago.

In July 2021 8 in 10 strongly agreed with people being vaccinated and a further 14% somewhat agreed. The number who strongly or somewhat disagree has increased compared to 2019, although they are still a tiny minority.

If this level of support can be translated into action, Australia will achieve the high level of vaccination against COVID-19 that is needed to get us out of this pandemic.

Vaccines are an effective way of protecting the person who is vaccinated from catching a disease

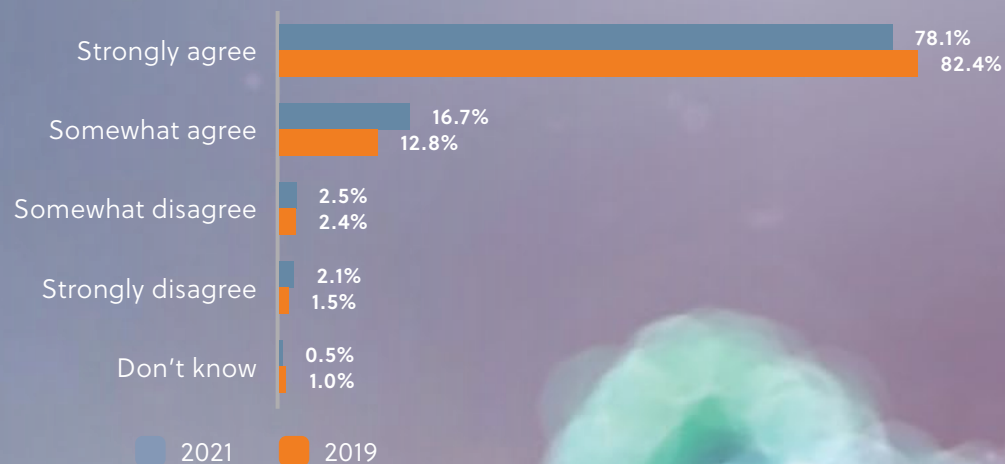


COVID-19 vaccines' main benefit is to reduce the risk of serious illness or death; the results of our poll show this is understood by most people.

The extent to which the COVID-19 vaccines prevent the spread of disease varies, depending on the particular vaccine and the strain of COVID-19.

There is also still the opportunity to intervene with the minority who have expressed a lack of confidence in vaccines. Nearly 8 in 10 (78.9%) of this group indicated that they would feel more confident about vaccines if they understood more about how they are created and tested.

Vaccines help prevent the spread of disease



Note: All the survey questions and response options are provided on page 28.

AUSTRALIA'S AGED CARE SYSTEM

In 2019, the Australian Government initiated a Royal Commission into Australia's Aged Care system. It was conducted over 18 months, including through the first waves of the COVID 19 pandemic when Australia's elderly were particularly affected.

The Royal Commission's report made a number of damning findings of neglect, abuse and failure in how Australia cares for some of its oldest and most vulnerable people. It also provided recommendations for the way to reform Australia's aged care system.

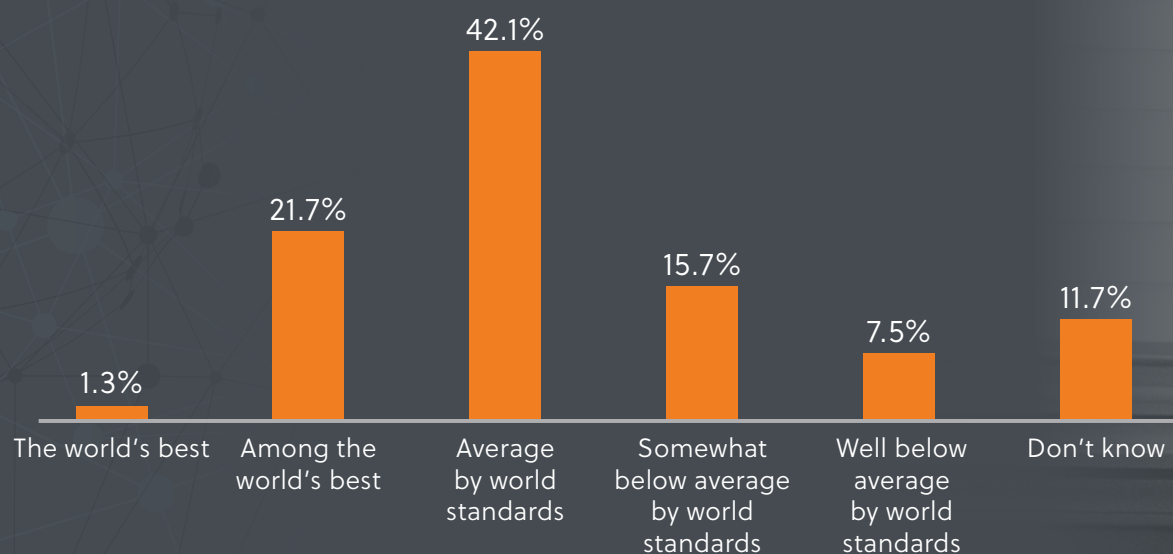
Health and medical research has a key role to play in improving the quality of life of all

Australians, including our eldest. It also has a role to play in helping reform the aged care system. We decided to ask some questions about aged care and Australians' perception of the role for health and medical research.

A little more than 4 in 10 Australians rate Australia's aged care system as average by world standards, and more rate it as below world average than above.

This is in stark contrast with Australians' perceptions of our health system recorded in our 2020 poll, when more than 7 in 10 judged our health system to be among the world's best.

How would you rate Australia's aged care system?



In much the same way that we did for the health system in 2020, this year we asked people what were the most important things we could do to improve the quality of our aged care system. All the options we proposed were popular.

More trained staff is by far the most popular option for improving residential aged care. More technology, by contrast, is the least important.

Modernising facilities and using the latest research and evidence are closely grouped in second and third place respectively, ahead of more residential aged care facilities.

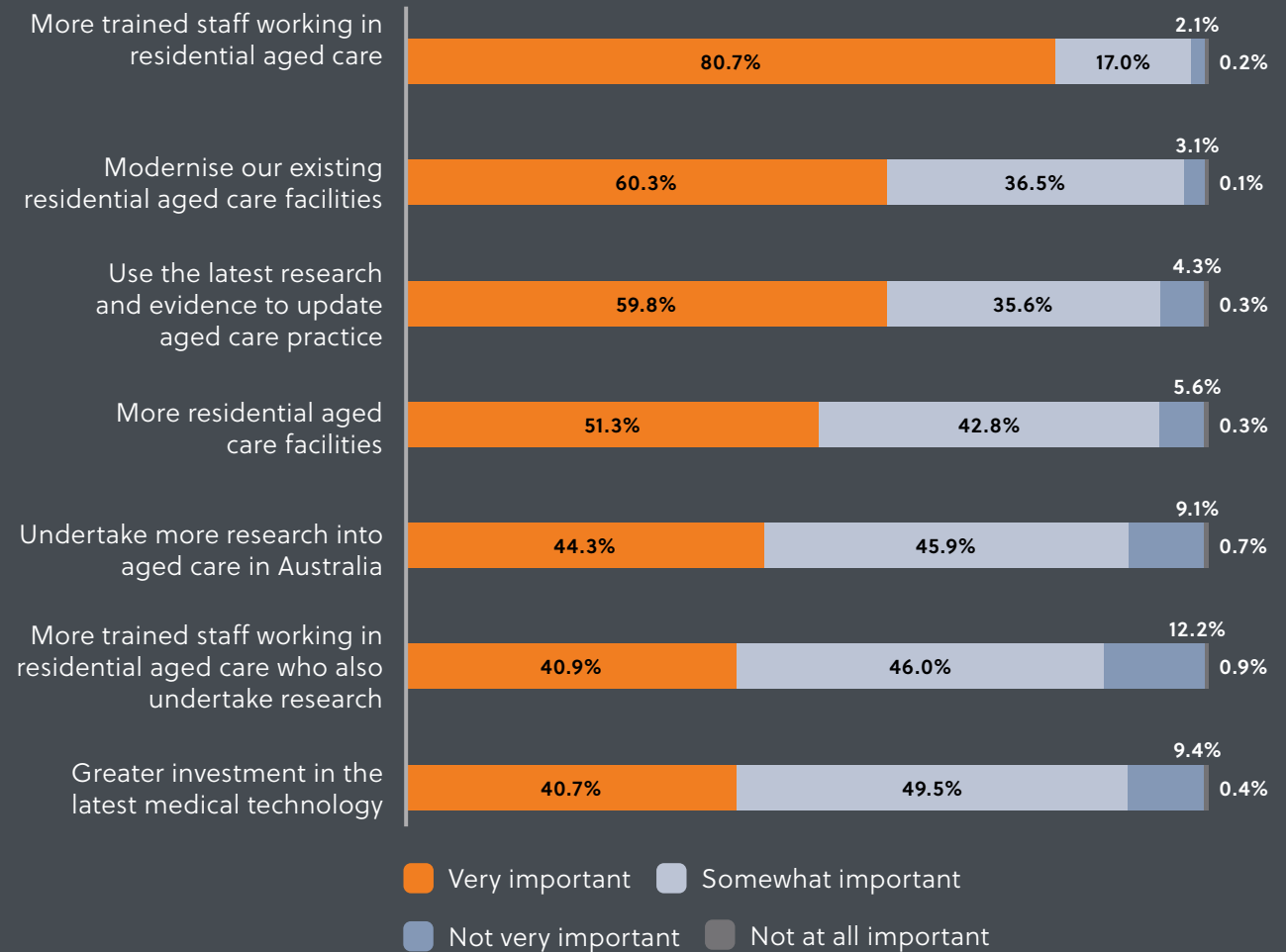
More research, and more research active aged care staff are also recognised as important actions that can be taken, with support from the vast majority.

Research Australia agrees with these priorities. Research has a key role to play in identifying gaps and deficiencies in care and developing new and better ways of delivering care.

Making sure research is adopted into practice is also critical and requires a better trained, more supported and research aware aged care workforce.

Research Australia looks forward to the ongoing implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

What do we need to improve Australia's residential aged care system?



INVOLVING THE PUBLIC IN DECISION MAKING ABOUT RESEARCH

The ultimate objective of all health and medical research is to improve our health and wellbeing. While most of us are not scientists or health experts, we know what is important to us about our health.

Our governments are major funders of research on our behalf and the public can play a key role in decision making about what research should be funded and how it should be conducted.

We asked Australians about their willingness to contribute their ideas and opinions to the priorities for health and medical research. Their answers are captured in the table on the top right.

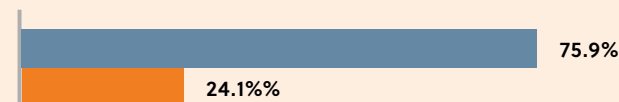
More than three quarters are confident about contributing their opinions to direct government funded research. However, far fewer know how they could do this.

More men (78.1%) than women (73.7%) are confident about contributing their opinion.

Research Australia has been interested in this topic for several years. When we first asked these questions in 2018, only two thirds were confident about providing their opinions. The proportion who would know who to contact was very similar to this year's poll.

While Research Australia is pleased to see a steady increase in the proportion who are confident in providing their opinion, there is clearly still a lot of work to be done to increase the opportunities for engagement.

Would you be confident contributing your opinions to help direct Government funding of health and medical research?

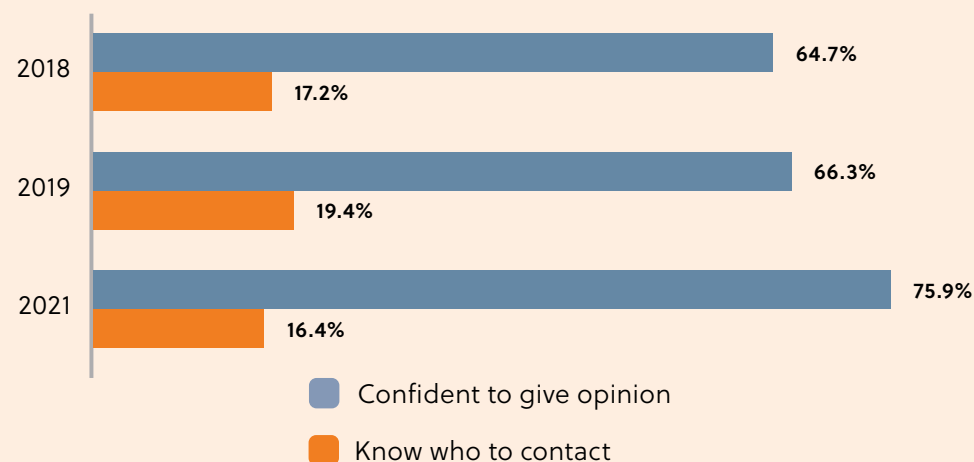


Would you know who to contact to contribute your opinions about where government should direct funding for health and medical research?



■ Yes ■ No

Responses over the years....



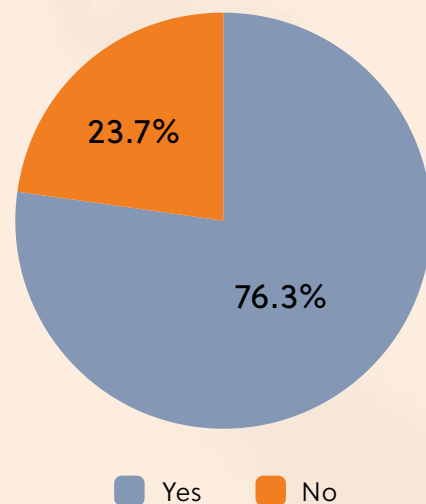
In recent years, citizens panels have become a popular way for governments and other organisations to capture the opinions and views of the public. Also called citizen juries, they provide an opportunity for a diverse group of citizens, or a group with specific experience, to consider a particular issue or question and make suggestions and recommendations. They can be used to gain insight from the public on many different issues; from the local, such as the design of a new playground, to the national.

Research Australia is interested in the capacity of citizen panels to guide decisions about the types

of health and medical research that should be funded and the priorities for this research. We wanted to know whether Australians would be willing to participate in citizen panels for this purpose.

The proportion of Australians willing to participate in a citizen panel is essentially the same as the proportion who indicated they would be confident to contribute their opinions. This suggests citizen panels could be a very popular and effective way of involving the Australian community in decisions about health and medical research.

Would you be willing to participate in a citizen panel to help direct funding for health and medical research?



MANAGING OUR HEALTH WITH TECHNOLOGY

The last few years has seen a boom in technology to help us manage our health. Gadgets that would once only be found in a hospital or doctor's surgery, such as blood pressure monitors, now appear in ALDI catalogues.

There are increasingly sophisticated apps available for smart phones to monitor physical activity, sleep patterns and even heart rhythm. The way Australians are using technology to help manage their own

health has the capacity not only to improve our wellbeing but transform the health system and how we interact with it.

Research Australia has been asking questions about how Australians use technology to manage their health since 2018, and there continues to be overwhelmingly strong support for the role of technology in helping us manage our own health.

Do you believe there is a role for technology in helping you to better manage your own health?

	2018	2020	2021
Yes	91.0%	87.7%	93.8%
No	9.0%	12.3%	6.2%

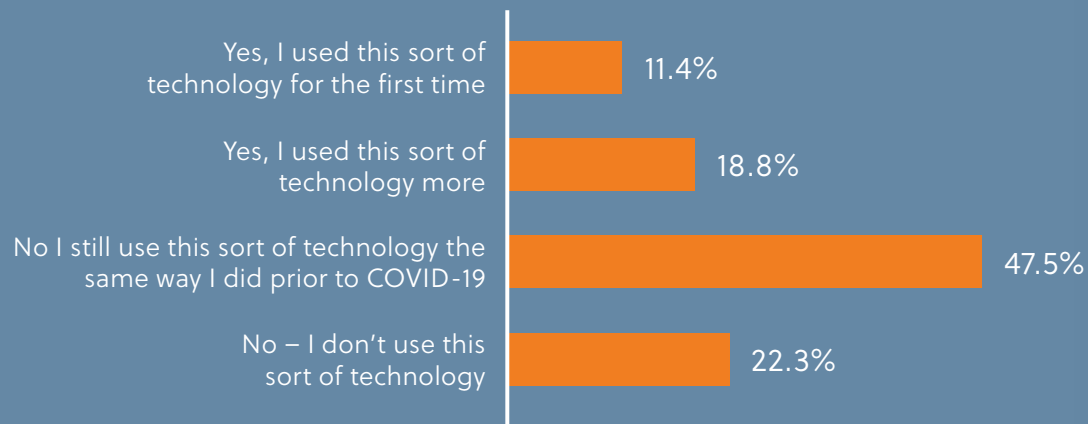
The COVID-19 pandemic has changed many aspects of our lives. It has forced many of us to engage with new technologies, such as QR codes to check in at shops; and to use technology to stay connected with family, friends and work colleagues. With access to healthcare restricted at different times, it has also forced many of us to take more responsibility for our own health. While social distancing and wearing masks are 'low tech' responses we are all now familiar with, we wanted to know if COVID-19 had changed the way people use technology to manage their health.

For around a third of us, the answer is 'yes'. Just over 1 in 10 reported using technology to manage their health for the first time, and nearly 2 in 10 reported using these technologies more.

In total, a little over three quarters reported using technology to manage their health. In 2018, 62% reported they were using technology, reinforcing the message in this poll that the use of technology to manage our own health is increasing.

Note: all respondents to this Poll have access to the internet, suggesting technology use among the sample group is higher than the general population.

Has the COVID-19 pandemic, and related restrictions including lockdowns, changed the way you use this sort of technology to manage your health?



Increasingly, the technology we use to manage our own health collects data. Smartwatches for example, can track activity, and provide information about us in real time but also over an extended period, indicating trends and changes in our health.

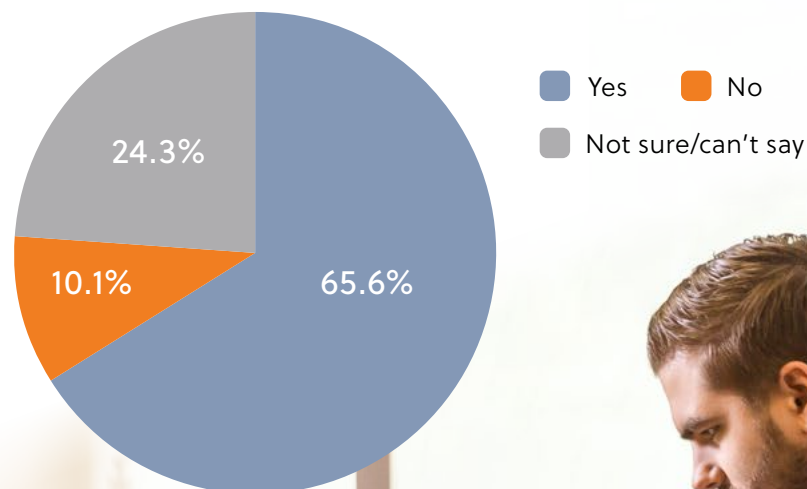
This data can be useful for research purposes. It can be useful, for example, to better understand the health of the broader population; how and where technology can be useful; and where it isn't useful.

We wanted to know whether people are willing to share their data for research purposes if they can't be identified.

Of those who use technology, two thirds are willing for their deidentified data to be used for research purposes, while a further quarter are unsure. Only 1 in 10 were not prepared to do so. Men (69.9%) were more willing than women (61.4%) to share their data.

This is not the first time we have asked people about their willingness to share data from their technology. In 2016, we asked people who regularly used activity tracking devices like fitbits if they would be prepared to share their data with researchers, and 75% told us they were. That was a more specific group than this year's sample, so it is not possible to say if the 10% difference between that poll and the current one reflects a reduced willingness to provide data. Research Australia will continue to explore this question in future polls.

In principle, would you be willing for data from the health technology you use to manage your health to be collected and used for research purposes if you could not be individually identified from the data?



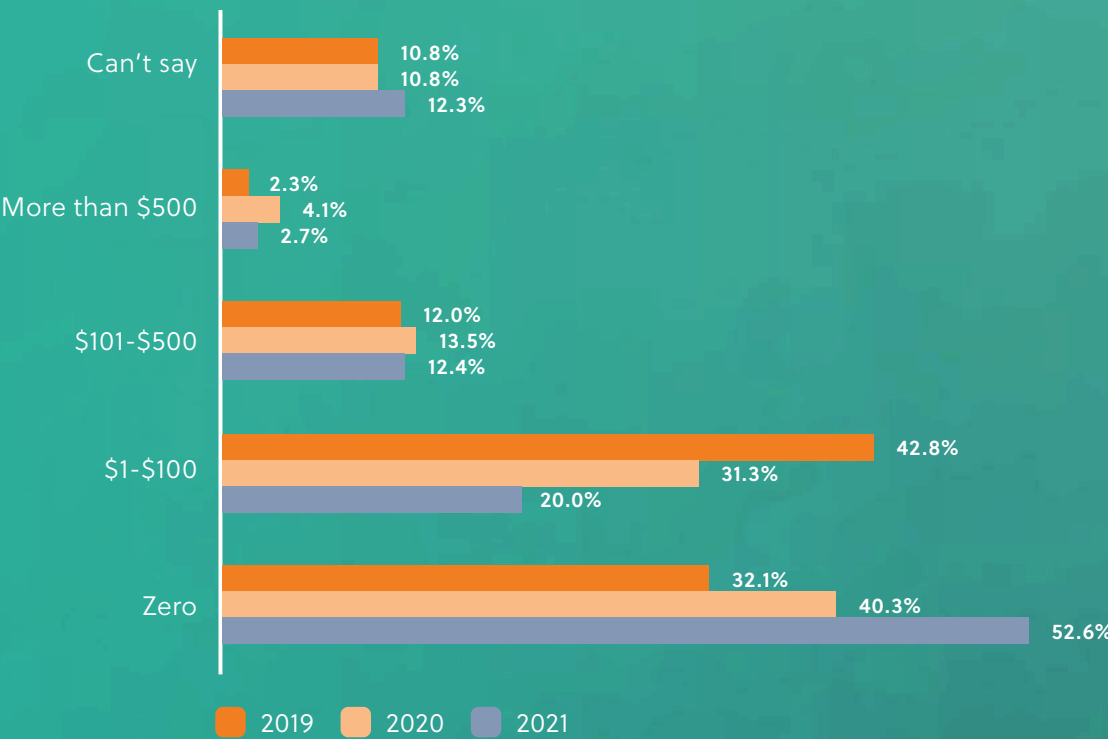
Donations are a vital part of funding for health and medical research, along with funding from business and governments.

For many years Research Australia has tracked Australians’ donations to health and medical research, and their motivations for doing so.

Over the last 3 years there has been a large increase in people reporting they had not made any donation to health and medical research in the last 12 months.

Looking at the size of donations, the biggest change has been in those who reported making a donation of up to \$100, where the proportion has halved over the last two years. The proportion of people making larger donations has remained reasonably stable.

About how much money did you donate in total to health and medical research in the last 12 months?



Note: All the survey questions and response options are provided on page 28.

Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly reduced the incomes of many Australians, and this may have had a direct effect on the capacity of many people to make donations in the last 12 months.

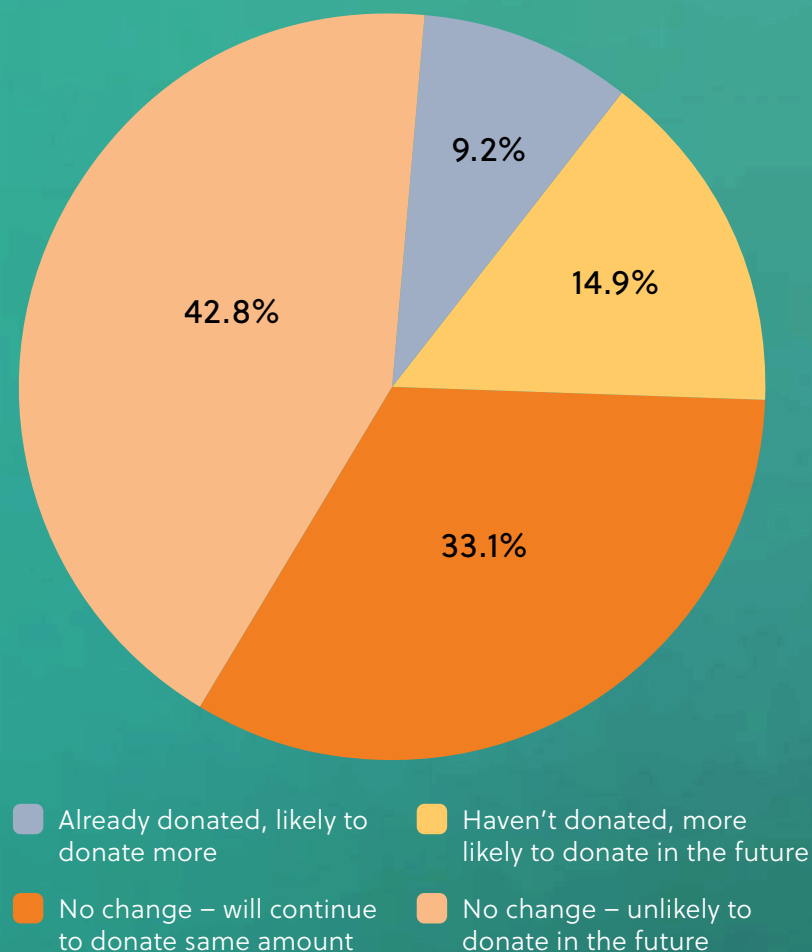
We asked people whether COVID-19 had changed their giving to health and medical research.

Perhaps most significantly, nearly 15% reported that they haven't donated to health and medical research before but are now more likely to do so in the future.

Nearly 10% reported that they already donate and are likely to donate more. The bulk of people who already donate indicated it would make no difference to how much they donate in the future.

One third of all respondents told us they haven't donated in the past and that this is unlikely to change in the future.

Has the COVID-19 pandemic changed your giving to health and medical research?



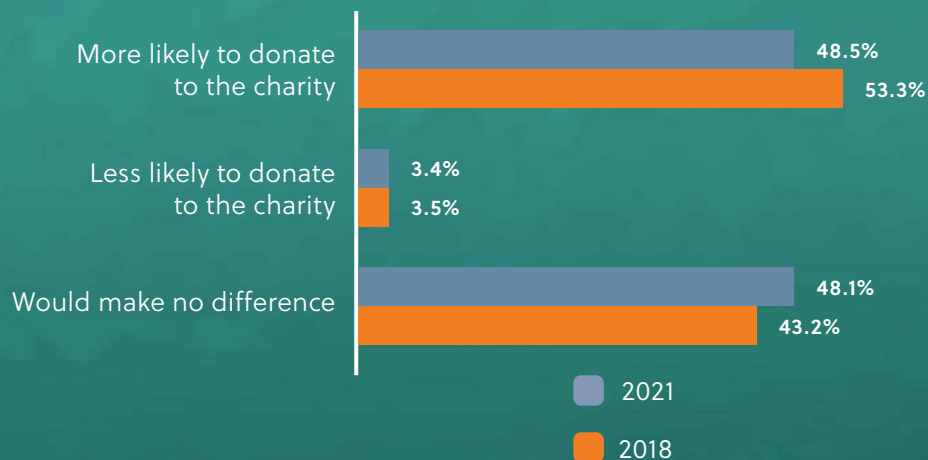
As noted elsewhere in this report, governments are also large contributors to health and medical research, and many research projects attract funding from both government grants and donations.

Sometimes charities partner with governments to provide funding, and we were curious to know what people thought about this.

Nearly half of people told us they would be more likely to donate to a charity if they knew a government was going to match public

donations to a charity to fund health and medical research. As we also asked the same question in our 2018 Poll, we can compare responses. They are broadly the same, with a minor reduction in the positive influence of a government matching donations. Importantly, only a small proportion of people are likely to donate less. **These results, which are relatively consistent over the two surveys, suggest that pursuing formal partnerships with governments could be an effective way for health and medical research charities to increase overall donations.**

Governments sometimes partner with charities to jointly fund research into a particular disease. If you knew that the Government was going to match public donations to a charity to fund health and medical research, would you be:



Page 4

Question: Firstly, please think about what priorities you think the Federal Government should be focusing on over the next 2–3 years. As you read through the following list of issues, please rate how important you personally think each issue is, as a priority for the Federal Government to be focusing on over the next 2–3 years. Please use a 0 to 10 scale, where a 0 means that it is not important up to a 10 that means it is extremely important or a critical priority for the Federal Government to be focusing on over the next 2–3 years.

Page 5

Question: Do you think your top 10 priorities for Federal Government spending are the Government's top 10 priorities?

Page 5

Question: Has COVID-19 changed your views about the importance of Government funding for health and medical research?

Page 7

Question: In relation to more funding for health and medical research, please rate the importance of more government funding for research in the following areas.

Page 8

Question: Basic or fundamental research is research aimed at generating new ideas, principles or theories. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Even if it brings no immediate benefits, basic scientific research that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the Federal Government.

Page 9

Question: How interested are you in health and medical research?

Page 9

Question: Are you more interested in health and medical research than you were before the COVID-19 pandemic?

Page 10

Question: Health and medical research is conducted in Australia in hospitals, universities and specialist medical research institutes, by government organisations, and by private companies, both large and small. Please rate how important you think health and medical research is for the following:

Page 11

Question: Health and medical research often depends on information from individuals to increase our understanding of human health and sickness, and to develop new treatments. This includes information from individuals about what makes them sick, what makes them better, and how people respond to different environments.

For which of the following would you be willing to share your personal health information if you could not be individually identified? Please mark all that apply.

Page 12

Question: Clinical trials are used to test the effectiveness of new medical treatments and drugs before they are safe to be introduced commercially.

If you required treatment and were asked to participate in a clinical trial of a new medical treatment would you agree to be involved?

Page 13

Question: Here are some possible reasons people may have for agreeing to take part in a clinical trial. For each reason, please say how important it is to you in deciding to participate in a clinical trial.

Page 14

Question: Here are some possible reasons people may have for not agreeing to take part in a clinical trial. For each reason, please say how important it is to you in deciding not to participate in a clinical trial.

Page 14

Question: Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Page 16

Question: Please indicate if you agree with the following statement:

I would feel more confident about vaccines if I understood more about how they are created and tested

Page 18

Question: How would you rate Australia's aged care system?

Page 19

Question: What do we need to improve Australia's residential aged care system? Please rate the importance of each of the following:

Page 20

Question: The Federal and State/Territory governments make significant investments in health and medical research. Would you be confident contributing your opinions to help direct government funding of health and medical research?

Page 20

Question: Would you know who to contact to contribute your opinions about where government should direct funding for health and medical research?

Page 21

Question: Citizen panels (also called citizen juries) provide an opportunity for a diverse group of citizens, or a group with specific experience, to consider a particular issue or question and make suggestions and recommendations. They can be used to guide decisions about the types of health and medical research that should be funded and the priorities for this research.

In principle, would you be willing to participate in a citizen panel to help direct funding for health and medical research? Please note: You will not be asked to do so based on your participation in this survey.

Page 22

Question: Technology can help people to better manage their health. For example:

- activity trackers and smartwatches encourage people to be active
- apps can remind people to take their medications or help them make healthy choices when shopping
- telehealth can make seeing a doctor easier
- there are devices for home use that can do things like measure heart rate or blood pressure.

Do you believe there is a role for technology in helping you to better manage your own health?

Page 23

Question: Has the COVID-19 pandemic, and related restrictions including lockdowns, changed the way you use this sort of technology to manage your health?

Page 24

Question: In principle, would you be willing for data from the health technology you use to manage your health (activity trackers, smartwatches, apps) to be collected and used for research purposes if you could not be individually identified from the data? Please note: You will not be asked to do so based on your participation in this survey.

Page 25

Question: About how much money did you donate in total to health and medical research in the last 12 months?

Page 26

Question: Are you more likely to donate to health and medical research now than you were before the COVID-19 pandemic?

Page 27

Question: Governments sometimes partner with charities to jointly fund research into a particular disease. If you knew that the Government was going to match public donations to a charity to fund health and medical research, would you be:

1. More likely to donate to the charity
2. Less likely to donate to the charity
3. It would make no difference to how much I would donate to the charity

Research Australia is the national peak body representing



RESEARCH AUSTRALIA

CONNECTS

researchers, funders and consumers to increase investment in health and medical research from all sources

ENGAGES

Australia in a conversation about the health benefits and economic value of its investment in health and medical research

INFLUENCES

government policies that support effective health and medical research and its routine translation into evidence-based practices and better health outcomes

enting the entire health & medical research pipeline



Our members include leading research organisations, health providers and peak bodies, academic institutions, charities, community special interest groups, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, small businesses and corporate Australia. We convene leaders across the health and medical research sector to:

Advocate for smarter investment in health and medical research

Drive a policy environment that empowers research to thrive

Champion the role health and medical research plays in enabling a healthy population and healthy economy

32 METHODOLOGY

Research Overview

Statement of Compliance with International Standards:	This research project was carried out in compliance with ISO 9001 & ISO 20252
Client Name:	Research Australia
Research Service Provider Name(s):	Roy Morgan Research Ltd
Sub-contractor used:	None
Process sub-contracted:	None
Research Objectives:	This research was conducted to trend attitudes towards medical and health issues in Australia.

Quantitative Research

Target Group:	Australians 18 years and older
Proposed Sample Size:	1,000
Actual Sample Size:	1,008
Reason for Difference in Proposed to Actual Sample Size:	Slight over-recruitment in some age/gender/location cells due to some respondents having begun but not completed the online survey when the quota target was met (i.e. they are permitted to finish). This over-recruitment was subsequently corrected during the weighting process (see below)
Fieldwork Period:	Monday 19 July to Tuesday 27 July, 2021
Sampling Method:	Members of Roy Morgan Research's Proprietary Online Panel, 18 years and older, living in Australia, were emailed an invitation to participate in the survey.
Data Collection Method:	Online survey (CAWI – Computer Assisted Web Interviewing)
Response Rate:	3.9%
Weighting Process:	Weighted proportional to population by age, sex and area, and projected to Australian 18+ population estimates
Estimation/Imputation Procedure:	No estimation/imputation processes used
Representatively of the Sample Population:	Sample is broadly representative of Australia's population by sex, age and area
Maximum Sampling Tolerance:	±3.1%
Incentive Type:	Points redeemable for cash

ABOUT RESEARCH AUSTRALIA

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Research Australia is the national alliance representing the entire health and medical research pipeline from the laboratory through to the patient and the marketplace. The organisation uses its unique convening power to position health and medical research as a significant driver of a healthy population and contributor to a healthy economy.

**RESEARCH
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*Sir Gustav Nossal AC CBE says –
'I am proud to be Patron of an
organisation so uniquely placed to
bring together the many pieces of
such a complex system and I watch
with great excitement the emerging
opportunities and bold ideas that will
transform healthcare for Australians.'*

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