

ATTACHMENT A

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS - FOI 2718

Document No.	Date	Pages	Description	Decision on access ¹
1	9 June 2021	22	Sentiment Towards COVID 19 Vaccine Research – Report, June 2021 (Wave 9) Author: Quantum Market Research (Aust) Pty Ltd	R
2	9 July 2021	21	Sentiment Towards COVID 19 Vaccine Research – Report, July 2021 (Wave 10) Author: Quantum Market Research (Aust) Pty Ltd	R
3	11 August 2021	22	Sentiment Towards COVID 19 Vaccine Research – Report, August 2021 (Wave 11) Author: Quantum Market Research (Aust) Pty Ltd	R

¹ R = Release in full.

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Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research

Department of Health

Report | June 2021 (Wave 9)



Research methodology



- Online survey conducted via an online research panel



- Questions relating to the COVID 19 vaccine were included in Quantum's AustraliaNOW survey a weekly survey of 1,000 Australians tracking attitudes and behaviours during the COVID 19 pandemic.



- Nationally representative sample by age, gender and location (State)
- Total sample size of n 1,000 per wave

Fieldwork dates:



Wave 1: 2nd 6th October 2020
Wave 2: 5th 9th November 2020
Wave 3: 3rd 7th December 2020
Wave 4: 14th 16th January 2021
Wave 5: 4th 8th February 2021
Wave 6: 4th 9th March 2021
Wave 7 (Part 1): 8th 12th April 2021
Wave 7 (Part 2): 15th 17th April 2021
Wave 8: 6th 10th May 2021
Wave 9: 3rd 7th June 2021

The project was carried out in line with the Market Research International Standard, AS ISO 20252.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19
Vaccine Research, June 2021 (Wave 9)

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Key take outs

1. **Intention to take up the COVID-19 vaccine has increased, with 70% of Australians intending to be (or are already are) vaccinated.** Increases in intentions have been largely among 50-69 year olds, females, Victorians and South Australians. Younger Australians (aged 18-29 years) remain the least likely to intend to be vaccinated if it were available to them.
2. **Increases in vaccination intentions were observed alongside rising community concern about the COVID-19 situation.** Historically, higher vaccination intentions have coincided with higher levels of concern about the COVID-19 situation. Just under a third (32%) of Australians indicated that the recent Melbourne outbreak made them more likely to consider being vaccinated.
3. **Concern about the potential long-term side-effects of the vaccine has decreased but remains the top barrier to being vaccinated.** According to those unlikely to be vaccinated, having confidence in the safety of the vaccine is the main factor that would encourage them to reconsider.



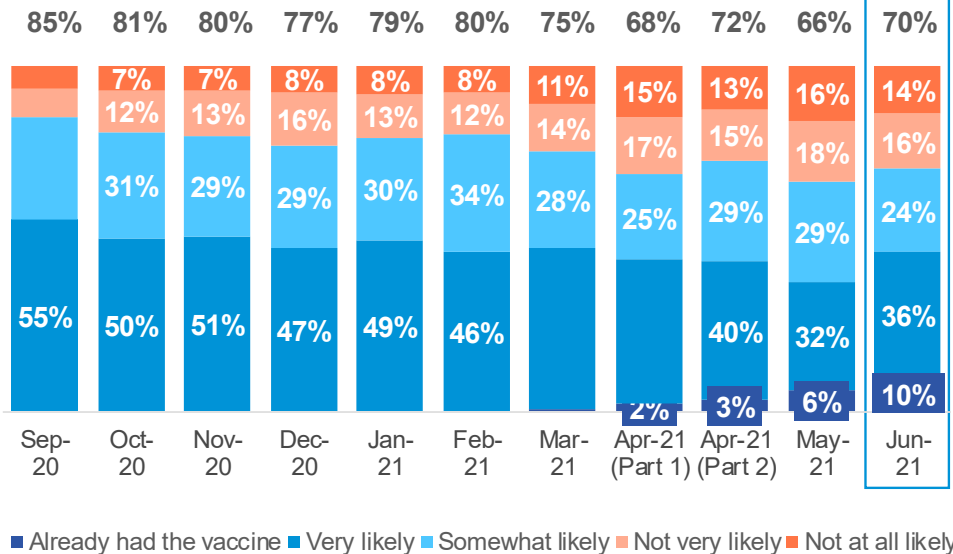
Findings: Sentiment Towards a COVID-19 Vaccine

Intention to take up the COVID-19 vaccine has increased, with 70% intending to be (or are already are) vaccinated

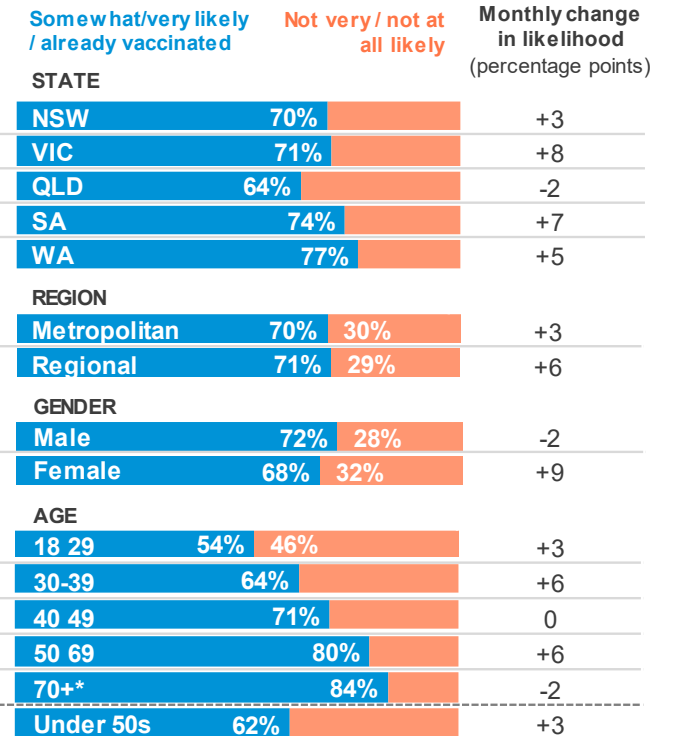
- Public intentions to be vaccinated against COVID-19 have increased from May to June, with 70% now likely to get (or already are) vaccinated.
- Increases in intentions since last month have been largely among Victorians and South Australians.
- Intentions among females have increased significantly.

Likelihood to take up coronavirus vaccine (By month)

Somewhat/very likely / already vaccinated:



June 2021:



Base: All Australians, n=1,001 (June 2021– AustraliaNOW). *Note: Small sample size for 70+ (see below).

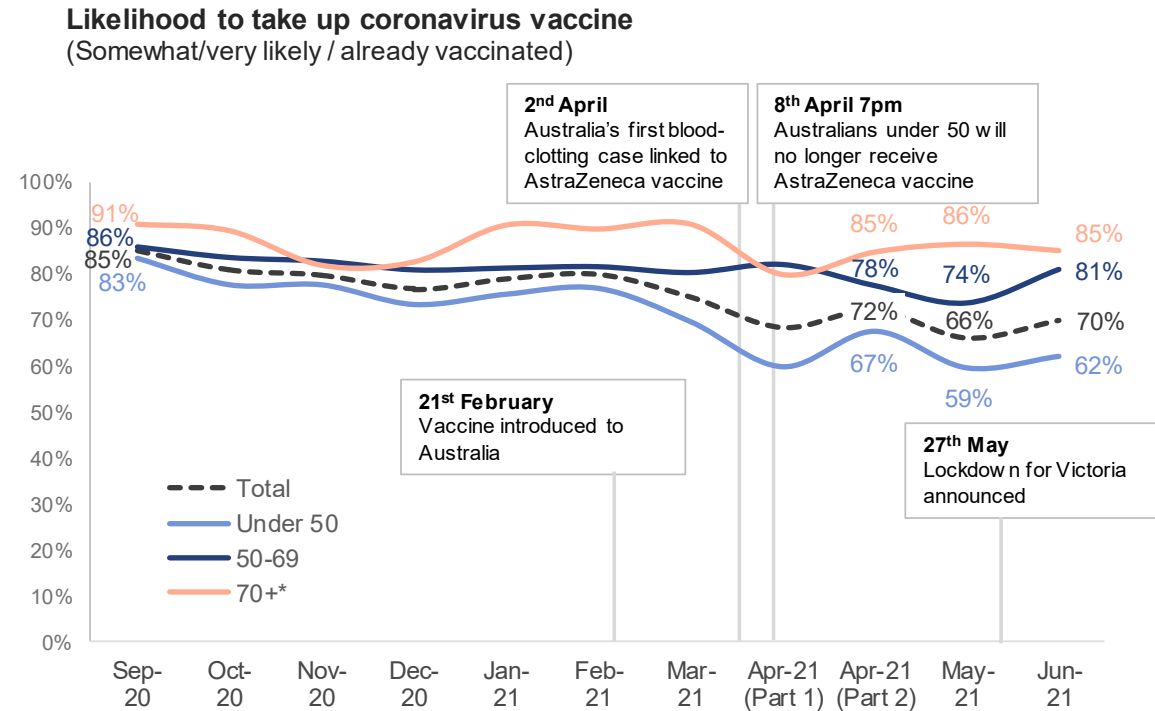
State: NSW n=324; VIC n=256; QLD n=211; SA n=80; WA n=85. Region: Metropolitan n=669; Regional n=332. Gender: Male n=497; Female n=496. Age: 18-29 n=228; 30-39 n=181; 40-49 n=180; 50-69 n=340; 70+ n=72.

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

Vaccination intentions have risen sharply among those aged 50-69 years, coinciding with Victoria's state-wide lockdown



- After decreasing in May, vaccination intentions have risen for those aged under 50 years and those aged 50-69 years. This rise comes after Victoria announced a one-week state-wide lockdown with a subsequent extension.
- Vaccination intentions have held steady among those aged 70+ years.



Base: All Australians, n=1,005 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW). N=approx. 1,000 per wave. *Note: Small sample size for 70+ (see below)

Under 50, n=564-603 per wave; 50-69 years, n=299-340 per wave; 70+ years, n=72-129 per wave.

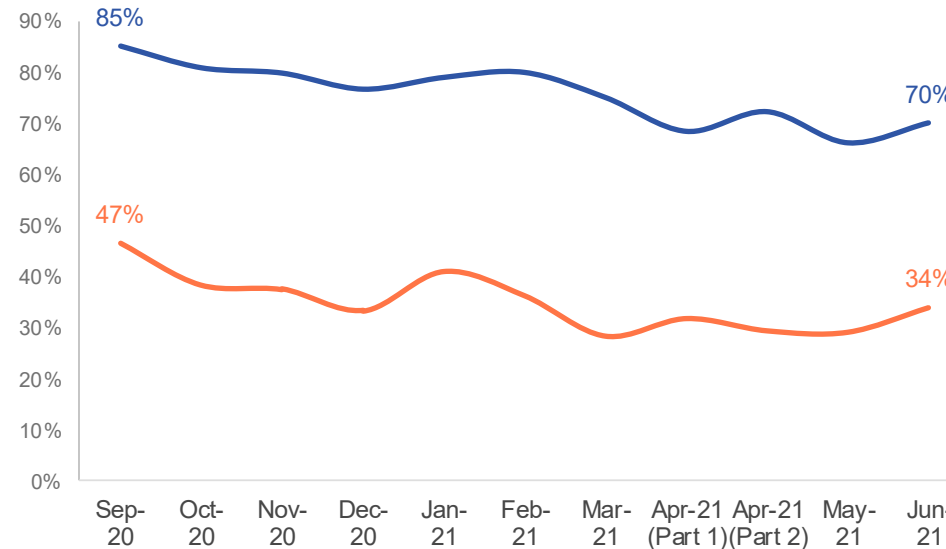
Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

Increases in vaccination intentions were recorded alongside rising community concern about the COVID-19 situation



- Historically, vaccination intentions have followed a similar pattern to concern about the COVID-19 situation in Australia.
- The link between vaccination intentions and concern about the COVID-19 situation is strongest at the extremes, with significantly higher vaccination intentions among those 'extremely concerned' about the situation compared to those 'not at all concerned'.

Likelihood to take up coronavirus vaccine / Concern about the COVID-19 situation
(Somewhat/very likely / already vaccinated) (Very/extremely concerned)



Likelihood to take up coronavirus vaccine	
	Jun-21
Extremely concerned (n=116)	80%
Very concerned (n=150)	72%
Moderately concerned (n=245)	77%
Slightly concerned (n=263)	74%
Not at all concerned (n=122)	64%

Base: All Australians, n=1,005 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW). N=approx. 1,000 per wave.

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

Q.8. How concerned are you about the Coronavirus/COVID-19 situation in general?

The Melbourne outbreak has prompted vaccination consideration and/or COVIDSafe behaviours for two thirds (66%)



- The most common responses were to take greater hygiene measures (45%), limit social interaction (38%) and wear face masks more often (36%).
- For just under a third (32%), the outbreak made them more likely to consider being vaccinated – up to 35% of those aged under 50 (and 44% for 40-49 year olds).

Impact of latest COVID-19 outbreak in Melbourne on attitudes/behaviours (By month)

The Melbourne outbreak has prompted me to:

The Melbourne outbreak has prompted me to:		State					Age		
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Under 50	50-69	70+*
COVID-19 vaccine									
Consider being vaccinated	32%	32%	35%	31%	39%	28%	35%	28%	20%
Book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination	14%	16%	21%	10%	10%	4%	18%	9%	5%
Go and get vaccinated	12%	15%	15%	11%	11%	3%	11%	13%	15%
Social interaction									
Limit my social interaction with others	38%	35%	59%	31%	31%	14%	39%	35%	40%
Hygiene									
Take greater hygiene measures	45%	46%	54%	41%	46%	28%	48%	41%	46%
Face masks									
Wear face masks more often	36%	32%	67%	24%	20%	12%	37%	35%	32%
None/no change	34%	34%	19%	42%	36%	53%	29%	42%	44%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians, n=1,001 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW). *Note: Small sample size (see below).

State: NSW n=324; VIC n=256; QLD n=211; SA n=80; WA n=85. Region: Metropolitan n=669; Regional n=332. Gender: Male n=497; Female n=496. Age: 18-29 n=228; 30-39 n=181; 40-49 n=180; 50-69 n=340; 70+ n=72.

Q6. Has the latest COVID-19 outbreak in Melbourne changed any of your attitudes or behaviours towards the COVID-19 vaccine or your current COVIDSafe behaviours?

Concern about the potential long-term side-effects of the vaccine has decreased, but remains the top barrier to being vaccinated

- The proportion of Australians that have any concerns about the vaccine has dropped slightly compared to last month to 81%.
- The main concerns continue to relate to potential long-term side effects (38%) followed by the perception that there has been inadequate testing of the vaccine (29%).
- However, there has been a decrease in those who are concerned about the long-term side effects, of 6 percentage points since last month.

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination

Total sample

		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	38%	-6	-1
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	29%	-2	+5
Process feels rushed	26%	-3	-1
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	24%	-3	+7
Unsure of short-term side effects	23%	-6	+1
Don't know enough about it yet	23%	-4	-3
I would want to wait until others have had it first	16%	-6	-7
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	12%	-2	+2
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	12%	+1	+1
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	8%	0	-1
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	7%	+2	+1
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	4%	-1	+1
Other	4%	+1	0
None	19%	+3	-6

Any barriers/ concerns:

81% (-3 p.p. last month)

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=898 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW).

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Australians aged under 50 years remain the most likely to express concerns about the COVID-19 vaccine

- Those aged under 50 are comparatively more likely to have any barrier to, or concerns about, COVID-19 vaccinations. They are also more likely to feel uninformed about vaccinations, and that the potential risk from COVID-19 is low.
- Concern about the potential side effects of the vaccine has decreased among 50-69 year olds.
- Those aged 70+ hold the least amount of concerns.

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination By age

	Under 50 (n=564)	50-69 (n=281)	70+ (n=53)
Any barriers/concerns	88%	73%	62%
Unsure of long-term side effects	38%	39%	37%
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	28%	30%	27%
Process feels rushed	27%	24%	23%
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	24%	23%	24%
Unsure of short-term side effects	23%	24%	27%
Don't know enough about it yet	26%	18%	18%
I would want to wait until others have had it first	17%	15%	10%
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	15%	9%	6%
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	12%	12%	14%
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	10%	6%	2%
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	8%	6%	2%
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	5%	2%	0%
Other	2%	7%	9%
None	12%	27%	38%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=898 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW).

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Females remain more concerned about the potential long-term side effects of the vaccine than males

- Despite an easing of concerns among females, they remain significantly more likely than males to be concerned or discouraged by the potential long-term side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine (45% compared to 31%).
- Females are also more likely to indicate that they don't know enough about the vaccine.
- Males are comparatively more likely to indicate that the risk from COVID-19 is low and that the vaccine won't be effective.

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination By gender

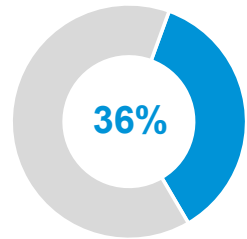
	Males (n=453)	Females (n=438)
Any barriers/concerns	78%	85%
Unsure of long-term side effects	31%	45%
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	27%	31%
Process feels rushed	25%	26%
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	22%	25%
Unsure of short-term side effects	22%	26%
Don't know enough about it yet	18%	27%
I would want to wait until others have had it first	16%	16%
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	15%	9%
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	15%	10%
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	8%	9%
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	7%	6%
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	6%	1%
Other	3%	5%
None	22%	15%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=898 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Note: Sample for 'Gender fluid/diverse/non-binary' too small to show (n=7)

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Among those that are *very likely* to get vaccinated, the potential side effects remain the most common concerns



Very likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19
(Jun-21)

- Among those 'very likely' to be vaccinated' (36% of Australians), the biggest concern continues to be the potential long-term and short-term side effects.
- Concerns remain relatively consistent with last month among this group.



Concerns about being vaccinated Those very likely to get vaccinated

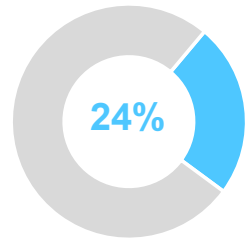
		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	30%	-2	0
Unsure of short-term side effects	22%	+1	+9
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	16%	+1	+4
Don't know enough about it yet	13%	-5	-2
Process feels rushed	13%	0	-4
I would want to wait until others have had it first	13%	-1	0
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	10%	+1	+3
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	9%	-1	+4
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	7%	+1	+2
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	4%	0	+1
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	3%	0	+1
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	1%	-1	0
Other	4%	+1	+1
None	36%	-1	-9

Any concerns:

64% (+1 p.p. last month)

Base: Very likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=361 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Several of the concerns held by those *somewhat likely* to be vaccinated have declined in June



Somewhat likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19
(Jun-21)

- Despite a 6 percentage point drop from last month, uncertainty surrounding potential long-term side effects remains a key barrier for this cohort.
- There has been a significant drop in concerns in relation to short-term side effects (10 percentage points).



Barriers to vaccination consideration Those somewhat likely to get vaccinated

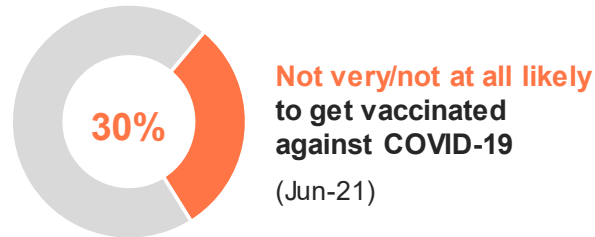
Any barriers:

89% (-1 p.p. last month)

		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	41%	-6	-1
Don't know enough about it yet	29%	+2	-3
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	28%	-6	+5
Process feels rushed	25%	-6	-1
I would want to wait until others have had it first	21%	-9	-15
Unsure of short-term side effects	21%	-10	-5
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	20%	-5	+3
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	9%	+3	-1
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	9%	-1	-5
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	8%	+3	0
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	4%	0	-4
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	2%	-2	-1
Other	5%	+2	+2
None	11%	+1	+1

Base: *Somewhat likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19*, n=240 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
Q4. Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

There continues to be a range of barriers among those *unlikely* to be vaccinated, mostly related to safety perceptions



- Among those unlikely to be vaccinated (30% of Australians), there has been a slight decline month-on-month in concern about the potential side effects of the vaccine.

Barriers to vaccination consideration

Those not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated

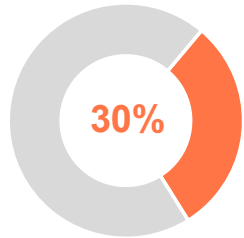
Any barriers:

97% (-1 p.p. last month)

		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	47%	-6	-6
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	44%	0	-3
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	43%	-3	+6
Process feels rushed	41%	-2	-5
Don't know enough about it yet	28%	-8	-10
Unsure of short-term side effects	27%	-8	-6
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	20%	+1	-2
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	19%	-1	+3
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	18%	+2	-5
I would want to wait until others have had it first	17%	-6	-10
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	9%	+3	+1
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	8%	-2	-1
Other	4%	+2	-2
None	3%	+1	0

Base: Not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=297 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
Q4. Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Confidence in the safety of the vaccine remains the most important self-reported factor for driving consideration



Not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19

(Jun-21)

- According to those unlikely to be vaccinated, having confidence in the safety of the vaccine is the main factor that would encourage them to reconsider.
- Seeing large numbers of Australians being safely vaccinated continues to be a motivator for 19% of these individuals but has dropped off significantly as a motivator since February.

What would encourage you to consider being vaccinated?
Those not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated

NET ANY:

74%

	Jun-21	Monthly change (percentage points)
If I felt confident that it was safe for me to get the vaccine	33%	0
If large numbers of Australians had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	19%	-2
If COVID-19 vaccines were shown to be reducing the number of people getting severe symptoms or dying	17%	-1
If large numbers of people around the world had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	17%	-1
If it meant I didn't have to quarantine on arrival or return when travelling interstate or overseas	11%	0
If I was required to interact more in person with the public and/or vulnerable/immuno-compromised people	10%	+2
If there were changes to my health that made me more at risk from COVID-19	10%	-1
If a COVID-19 vaccine was required for overseas travel	10%	-5
If vaccination helped us to get back to normal life more quickly	9%	0
If my workplace/employer gave me time off to get vaccinated (and recover if I had side effects)	8%	+4
If there was community transmission of COVID-19 in my local area	8%	0
If vaccination helped Australia's economy recover	8%	+2
If it gave me more freedom to travel within Australia	8%	+1
If many of my family and/or social circle had been vaccinated for COVID-19	8%	+3
If it meant I didn't have to self-isolate if there was a local outbreak of COVID-19	7%	+1
Other	2%	0
None	26%	+1

Base: Not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=297 (June 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
Q3. Which of the following (if any) would encourage you to consider being vaccinated against COVID-19?

About the research

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Respondent profile

Nationally representative sample by age, gender and location.
N 1,000 per wave

Wave sample size	N=	Wave sample size	N=
June 2021	1,001	February 2021	1,001

Quotas and weighting

Quotas were applied to ensure a representative spread of responses by gender, age and State. Data has also been weighted by State and gender to achieve a representative profile.

Sample accuracy

The results are based off a total sample size of n=1,000, yielding a maximum margin of error of +/- 3.1% (at the 95% confidence interval). This means that for a result of 50%, we can be 95% confident that the result in the actual population will range between 46.9% and 53.1%.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19
Vaccine Research, June 2021 (Wave 9)

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June 2021 (Wave 9)	Proportion of sample (weighted %)	Number of respondents (n=)
Total	100%	1,001
Gender		
Male	49%	497
Female	51%	496
Gender fluid/diverse/non-binary	0%	8
Age		
18 – 29 years	23%	228
30 – 39 years	18%	181
40 – 49 years	18%	180
50 – 69 years	34%	340
70+ years	7%	72
State		
NSW	32%	324
VIC	26%	256
QLD	20%	211
SA	7%	80
WA	10%	85
Other	5%	45

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Appendix I: Survey questions

Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 3rd - 7th June 2021.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research, June 2021 (Wave 9)

ASK ALL

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Very likely..... 1
Somewhat likely..... 2
Not very likely..... 3
Not at all likely..... 4

I've already had the vaccine..... 5

ASK IF Q2=1-4

Q4. [IF Q2=2-4] Which of the following (if any) are **preventing you** from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[IF Q2=1] What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

I believe the vaccine could be unsafe..... 1
I feel there is inadequate testing/research..... 2
Unsure of short-term side effects in the days just following vaccination..... 14
Unsure of long-term side effects..... 3
Process feels rushed..... 4
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination..... 5
Don't know enough about it yet..... 6
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines..... 7
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low..... 8
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine..... 9
I would want to wait until others have had it first..... 10
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus..... 11
Other (please specify)..... 12
None..... 13

Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 3rd - 7th June 2021.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research, June 2021 (Wave 9)

ASK IF Q2=3-4 (NOT AT ALL LIKELY/ NOT VERY LIKELY)

Q3. Which of the following (if any) would encourage you to consider being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE, RANDOMISE]

If there was community transmission of COVID-19 in my local area	1
If vaccination helped us to get back to normal life more quickly	2
If vaccination helped Australia's economy recover	3
If I felt confident that it was safe for me to get the vaccine	4
If large numbers of people around the world had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	5
If large numbers of Australians had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	6
If COVID-19 vaccines were shown to be reducing the number of people getting severe symptoms or dying	7
If many of my family and/or social circle had been vaccinated for COVID-19	8
If my workplace/ employer gave me time off to get vaccinated (and recover if I had side effects)	9
If it gave me more freedom to travel within Australia	10
If a COVID-19 vaccine was required for overseas travel	11
If it meant I didn't have to quarantine on arrival or return when travelling interstate or overseas	12
If I was required to interact more in person with the public and/or vulnerable/ immuno-compromised people	13
If it meant I didn't have to self-isolate if there was a local outbreak of COVID-19	14
If there were changes to my health that made me more at risk from COVID-19	15
Other (please specify)	16
None	17

Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 3rd - 7th June 2021.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research, June 2021 (Wave 9)

ASK ALL

Q6. Has the latest COVID-19 outbreak in Melbourne changed any of your attitudes or behaviours towards the COVID-19 vaccine or your current COVIDSafe behaviours?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE, RANDOMISE TOPICS]

COVID-19 vaccine

The Melbourne outbreak has made me more likely to consider being vaccinated..... 1

The Melbourne outbreak has made me book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination 2

The Melbourne outbreak has prompted me to go and get vaccinated 3

Social interaction

The Melbourne outbreak has prompted me to limit my social interaction with others..... 4

Hygiene

The Melbourne outbreak has prompted me to take greater hygiene measures (e.g. hand washing, using hand sanitiser, etc.) 5

Face masks

The Melbourne outbreak has prompted me to wear face masks more often 6

None/no change 7

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Report | July 2021 (Wave 10)



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Key take outs

1. **Intention to take up the COVID-19 vaccine has remained stable, with 70% intending to be (or are already are) vaccinated.** There have been gradual increases in vaccination intentions among under 40s in the past two months since May. This comes as outbreaks and associated lockdowns are managed across the country, and those aged under 40 are now able to request an AstraZeneca vaccine from their GP.
2. **The recent outbreaks have prompted almost two in five Australians (38%) to consider vaccination.** This is as high as 43% for those aged under 50 who have consistently shown lower vaccination intentions. Around one in five (19%) have booked/attempted to book a vaccination as a result of the recent outbreaks and 15% indicated they went ahead and got vaccinated (as high as 19% in Victoria). Whilst safety assurance remains the key factor for consideration among those unlikely to be vaccinated, avoiding disruptions has become increasingly motivating.
3. **Despite outbreaks prompting consideration, concerns among those yet to be fully vaccinated remain.** Over four in five (83%) of unvaccinated Australians have some level of concern about vaccination. The main psychological barriers continue to relate to possible side effects, confidence in the development process and general safety.



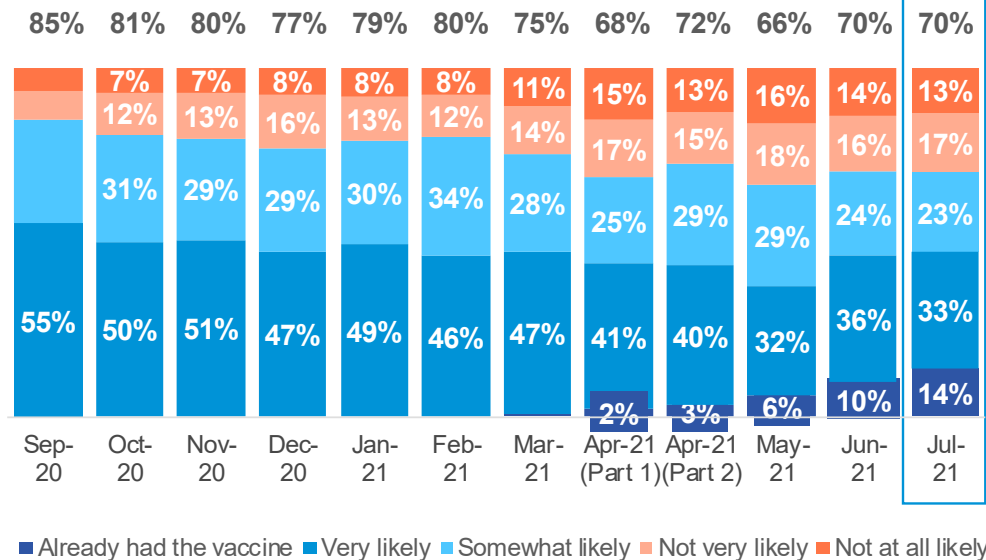
Findings: Sentiment Towards a COVID-19 Vaccine

Intention to take up the COVID-19 vaccine has remained stable, with 70% intending to be (or are already are) vaccinated

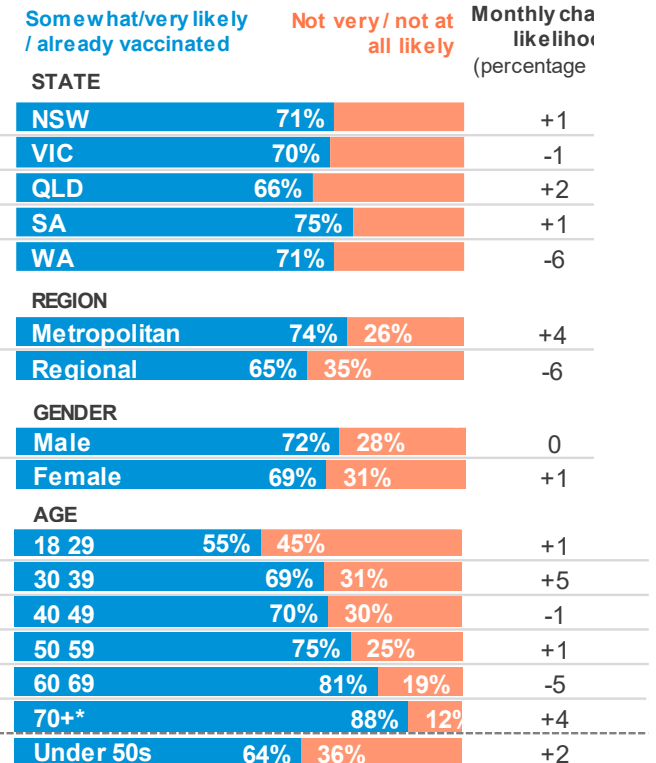
- Public intentions to be vaccinated against COVID-19 have been upheld, with 70% likely to get (or already are) vaccinated.
- There have been some month-on-month increases in intentions among those in metropolitan areas and in those ages 30-39 and 70+ years, although not statistically significant.

Likelihood to take up coronavirus vaccine (By month)

Somewhat/very likely / already vaccinated:



July 2021:



Base: All Australians, n=1,004 (July 2021– AustraliaNOW). *Note: Small sample size for 70+ (see below).

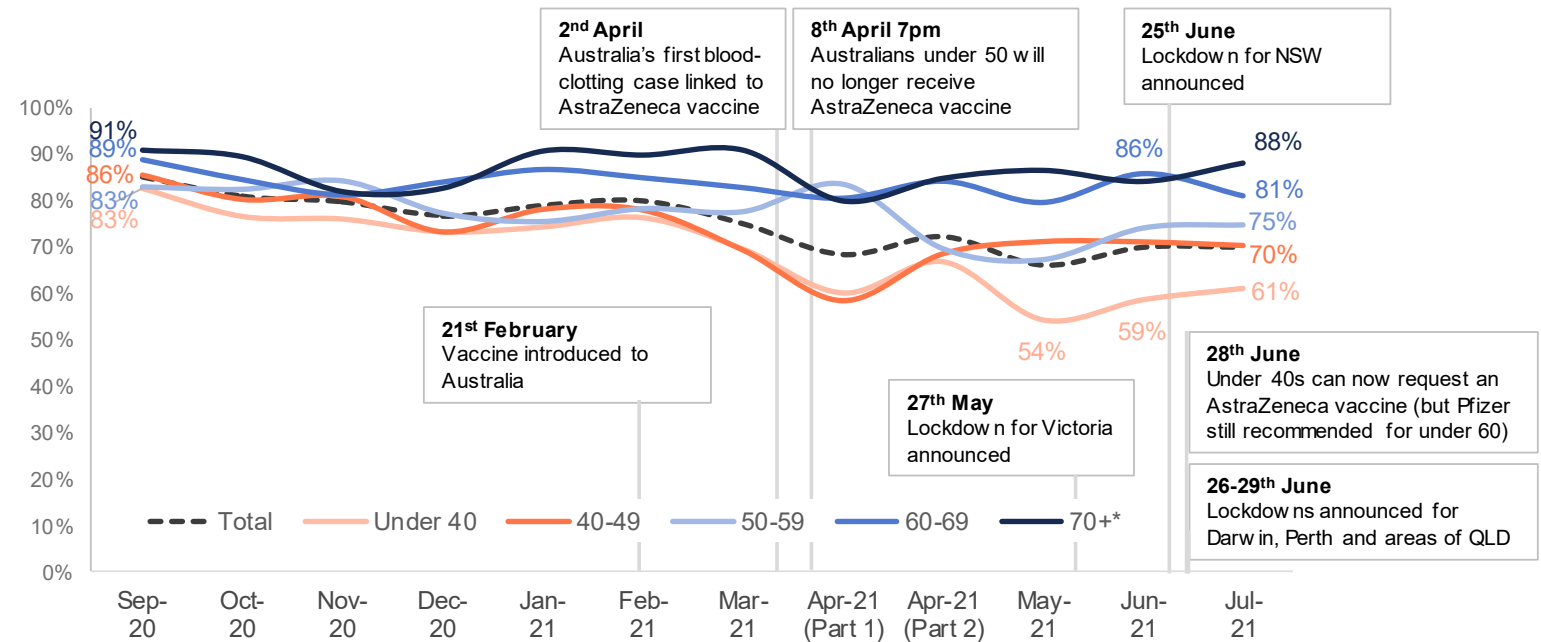
NSW n=324; VIC n=250; QLD n=209; SA n=80; WA n=88. Metropolitan n=664; Regional n=340. Male n=484; Female n=510. 18-29 n=225; 30-39 n=184; 40-49 n=190; 50-59 n=156; 60-69 n=167; 70+ n=82.

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

Vaccination intentions have largely been upheld across age cohorts, with gradual increases in under 40s seen since May

- As various outbreaks and associated lockdowns are managed across the country, intentions to be vaccinated against COVID-19 have risen gradually for those aged under 40 years. This coincides with an announcement that those aged under 40 can request an AstraZeneca vaccine from their GP.
- Vaccination intentions have declined slightly for those aged 60-69 years.

Likelihood to take up coronavirus vaccine
(Somewhat/very likely / already vaccinated)



Base: All Australians, n=1,004 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW). N=approx. 1,000 per wave. *Note: Small sample size for 70+ (see below)

Under 40, n=385-429 per wave; 50-59 years, 141-169 per wave; 60-69 years, n=149-179 per wave; 70+ years, n=72-129 per wave.

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

The recent outbreaks have prompted almost two in five Australians (38%) to consider vaccination

- Almost two in five Australians (38%) have considered being vaccinated as a result of the outbreaks – this is as high as 43% for those aged under 50 (who have consistently shown lower vaccination intentions).
- Around one in five (19%) have booked/attempted to book a vaccination and 15% indicated they went ahead and got vaccinated (as high as 19% in Victoria).

Impact of latest COVID-19 outbreaks on attitudes/behaviours

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to:

		State					Age		
	COVID-19 vaccine	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Under 50	50-69	70+*
	Consider being vaccinated	40%	37%	37%	37%	37%	43%	33%	23%
	Book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination	20%	20%	20%	17%	17%	24%	13%	7%
	Go and actually get vaccinated	15%	19%	9%	14%	12%	10%	20%	29%
	Social interaction								
	Limit my social interaction with others	66%	50%	62%	45%	54%	59%	57%	49%
	Hygiene								
	Take greater hygiene measures	65%	61%	67%	61%	61%	66%	61%	57%
	Face masks								
	Wear face masks more often	72%	65%	71%	54%	63%	67%	66%	68%
	Checking in								
	Check in at businesses or venues more often	65%	66%	68%	59%	65%	67%	66%	60%
	None/no change	12%	15%	10%	17%	18%	11%	18%	18%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians, n=1,004 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW). *Note: Small sample size (see below).

State: NSW n=330; VIC n=250; QLD n=209; SA n=80; WA n=88. Age: 18-29 n=225; 30-39 n=184; 40-49 n=190; 50-69 n=323; 70+ n=82.

Q6. Have the recent COVID-19 outbreaks changed any of your attitudes or behaviours towards the COVID-19 vaccine or your current COVIDSafe behaviours?

Despite outbreaks prompting consideration, concerns among those yet to be fully vaccinated remain

- Over four in five Australians (83%) that are yet to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 have some level of concern about vaccination.
- The main concern (possible long term side effects) has become slightly more prominent this month, while secondary concerns (development and testing process, safety) remain mostly consistent.
- It should be noted that concerns are expected to rise within the unvaccinated population, as this group reduces in size and those more positive towards vaccination become vaccinated.

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination

Total sample

Any barriers/ concerns:

83% (+2 p.p. last month)

		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	43%	+5	+1
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	29%	0	0
Process feels rushed	29%	+3	+2
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	28%	+4	+4
Don't know enough about it yet	25%	+2	0
Unsure of short-term side effects	25%	+2	-2
I would want to wait until others have had it first	15%	-1	-8
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	13%	+1	+3
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	12%	0	-1
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	8%	0	-2
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	7%	0	-1
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	6%	+2	+1
Other	4%	0	+1
None	17%	-2	0

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=864 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Note: 3-monthly change compares Jul-21 to Apr-21 (Part 1)

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Australians aged under 50 years remain the most likely to express concerns about the COVID-19 vaccine

- As many as 88% of those aged under 50 that are yet to receive the COVID-19 vaccine have expressed at least one concern.
- More prominent concerns or barriers for this cohort compared to other age groups include possible long term side effects, not feeling knowledgeable about the vaccine(s) and wanting to wait until others have had it first.

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination By age

	Under 50 (n=556)	50-69 (n=254)	70+ (n=54)
Any barriers/concerns	88%	76%	57%
Unsure of long-term side effects	46%	40%	27%
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	31%	28%	22%
Process feels rushed	31%	27%	18%
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	29%	28%	16%
Don't know enough about it yet	30%	14%	20%
Unsure of short-term side effects	25%	25%	20%
I would want to wait until others have had it first	18%	11%	12%
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	13%	11%	11%
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	13%	8%	14%
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	10%	7%	0%
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	8%	7%	4%
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	8%	3%	2%
Other	3%	5%	7%
None	12%	24%	43%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=864 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW).

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

While females continue express greater concerns, males are increasingly likely to believe the vaccine(s) could be unsafe

- Females remain significantly more likely than males to be concerned or discouraged by the potential long-term side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine (49% compared to 37%).
- There has been an increase in the proportion of males believing the vaccine could be unsafe (up from 22% in June to 31% in May to the highest level seen for this cohort across five months).

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination By gender

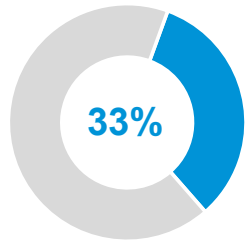
	Males (n=416)	Females (n=439)
Any barriers/concerns	78%	87%
Unsure of long-term side effects	37%	49%
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	27%	32%
Process feels rushed	24%	34%
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	+9 p.p. 31%	25%
Don't know enough about it yet	22%	28%
Unsure of short-term side effects	24%	25%
I would want to wait until others have had it first	15%	16%
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	17%	8%
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	13%	10%
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	9%	8%
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	8%	8%
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	8%	4%
Other	4%	4%
None	22%	13%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=864 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Note: Sample for 'Gender fluid/diverse/non-binary' too small to show (n=9)

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Among those that are *very likely* to get vaccinated, the potential side effects remain the most common concerns



Very likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19
(Jul-21)

- Concern about the potential long-term side effects has increased directionally for this cohort.
- All other concerns remain largely consistent.



Concerns about being vaccinated

Those very likely to get vaccinated

Any concerns:

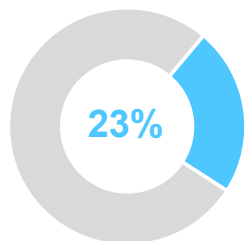
64% (0 p.p. last month)

		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	37%	+7	+4
Unsure of short-term side effects	21%	-1	+2
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	16%	0	-2
Process feels rushed	15%	+2	+1
Don't know enough about it yet	15%	+2	-3
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	13%	+3	+4
I would want to wait until others have had it first	11%	-2	-5
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	7%	+3	+2
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	6%	-1	0
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	5%	-4	-4
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	2%	-1	-2
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	2%	+1	0
Other	3%	-1	+1
None	36%	0	+4

Base: Very likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=337 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Note: 3-monthly change compares Jul-21 to Apr-21 (Part 1)

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Several of the concerns held by those *somewhat likely* to be vaccinated have increased in July



Somewhat likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19
(Jul-21)

- Concerns among this cohort that may be preventing vaccination have re-emerged, particularly the speed of the process, and the safety of the vaccine(s).
- Possible long-term side effects remains the most salient concern (47%).
- Deferring vaccination ('wait and see approach') has dropped off.



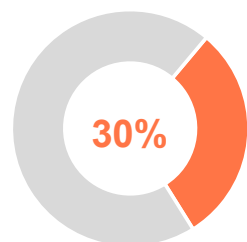
Barriers to vaccination consideration Those somewhat likely to get vaccinated

Any barriers:
94% (+5 p.p. last month)

		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	47%	+6	+1
Process feels rushed	34%	+9	+5
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	33%	+5	+4
Don't know enough about it yet	30%	+1	-1
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	29%	+9	+5
Unsure of short-term side effects	23%	+2	-10
I would want to wait until others have had it first	16%	-5	-14
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	14%	+5	+1
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	12%	+3	+2
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	7%	-1	-2
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	6%	+4	+3
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	5%	+1	-1
Other	5%	0	+2
None	6%	-5	-1

Base: Somewhat likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=231 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Note: 3-monthly change compares Jul-21 to Apr-21 (Part 1)
Q4. Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

The nature and hierarchy of barriers among those *unlikely* to be vaccinated remain consistent, around safety and side effects



Not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19
(Jul-21)

- Among those unlikely to be vaccinated (30% of Australians), the barriers remain unchanged, with main concerns relating to possible side effects, safety, development and testing and the speed of the process.

Barriers to vaccination consideration

Those not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated

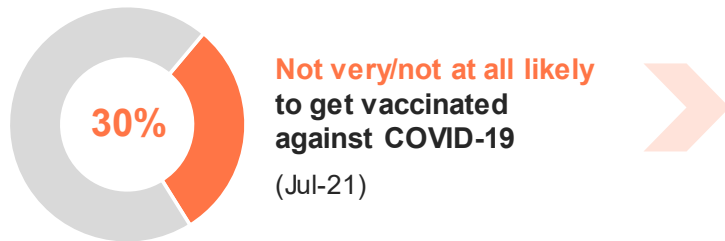
Any barriers:

95% (-2 p.p. last month)

		Monthly change (percentage points)	3-monthly change (percentage points)
Unsure of long-term side effects	48%	+1	-2
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	45%	+2	+1
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	41%	-3	-3
Process feels rushed	41%	0	0
Don't know enough about it yet	33%	+5	+3
Unsure of short-term side effects	29%	+2	-3
I would want to wait until others have had it first	20%	+3	-5
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	20%	0	+4
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	18%	0	-5
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	17%	-2	-1
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	10%	+2	0
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	9%	0	-2
Other	4%	0	0
None	5%	+2	+1

Base: Not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=296 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Note: 3-monthly change compares Jul-21 to Apr-21 (Part 1)
Q4. Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Whilst safety assurance remains the key factor for consideration, avoiding disruptions has become increasingly motivating



- For almost a third of those unlikely to be vaccinated (31%), having confidence in the safety of the vaccine would encourage them to reconsider.
- Factors relating to the inconveniences of quarantine and lockdowns have become increasingly motivating in July, with 13% of this cohort now indicating that they would consider vaccination to avoid self-isolation during outbreaks, or to get back to normal life more quickly.

What would encourage you to consider being vaccinated?

Those not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated

	Jul-21	Monthly change (percentage points)
If I felt confident that it was safe for me to get the vaccine	31%	-2
If vaccines were shown to reduce the number of people getting severe symptoms or dying	20%	+3
If large numbers of people around the world had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	17%	0
If large numbers of Australians had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	17%	-2
If it meant I didn't have to self-isolate if there was a local outbreak of COVID-19	13%	+6
If vaccination helped us to get back to normal life more quickly	13%	+4
If there were changes to my health that made me more at risk from COVID-19	11%	+1
If a COVID-19 vaccine was required for overseas travel	10%	+1
If it meant I didn't have to quarantine on arrival or return when travelling interstate or overseas	10%	-1
If it gave me more freedom to travel within Australia	8%	0
If I was required to interact more in person with the public and/or vulnerable/immuno-compromised people	8%	-2
If my workplace/employer gave me time off to get vaccinated (and recover if I had side effects)	8%	0
If many of my family and/or social circle had been vaccinated for COVID-19	7%	-1
If vaccination helped Australia's economy recover	7%	-1
If there was community transmission of COVID-19 in my local area	5%	-3
Other	5%	+3
None	23%	-4

NET ANY:

77%

Under 50s: **83%**

Monthly change (percentage points)

Base: Not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=296 (July 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
Q3. Which of the following (if any) would encourage you to consider being vaccinated against COVID-19?

About the research

Respondent profile

Nationally representative sample by age, gender and location.

N=1,000 per wave

Wave sample size	N=	Wave sample size	N=
July 2021	1,004	February 2021	1,001

Quotas and weighting

Quotas were applied to ensure a representative spread of responses by gender, age and State. Data has also been weighted by State and gender to achieve a representative profile.

Sample accuracy

The results are based off a total sample size of n=1,000, yielding a maximum margin of error of +/-3.1% (at the 95% confidence interval). This means that for a result of 50%, we can be 95% confident that the result in the actual population will range between 46.9% and 53.1%.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19
Vaccine Research, July 2021 (Wave 10)

July 2021 (Wave 10)	Proportion of sample (weighted %)	Number of respondents (n=)
Total	100%	1,004
Gender		
Male	49%	484
Female	51%	510
Gender fluid/diverse/non-binary	0%	10
18 – 29 years	22%	225
30 – 39 years	18%	184
40 – 49 years	19%	190
50 – 69 years	32%	323
70+ years	8%	82
NSW	32%	330
VIC	26%	250
QLD	20%	209
SA	7%	80
WA	10%	88
Other	5%	47

Appendix I: Survey questions

Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 1st – 5th July 2021.

ASK ALL

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Very likely..... 1
Somewhat likely..... 2
Not very likely 3
Not at all likely 4

I've already had the vaccine 5

ASK IF Q2=1-4

Q4. [IF Q2=2-4] Which of the following (if any) are **preventing you** from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[IF Q2=1] What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

I believe the vaccine could be unsafe 1
I feel there is inadequate testing/research..... 2
Unsure of short-term side effects in the days just following vaccination 14
Unsure of long-term side effects 3
Process feels rushed 4
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination..... 5
Don't know enough about it yet..... 6
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines..... 7
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low..... 8
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine..... 9
I would want to wait until others have had it first..... 10
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus..... 11
Other (please specify) 12
None 13

Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 1st – 5th July 2021.

ASK IF Q2=3-4 (NOT AT ALL LIKELY/ NOT VERY LIKELY)

Q3. Which of the following (if any) would encourage you to consider being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE, RANDOMISE]

If there was community transmission of COVID-19 in my local area.....	1
If vaccination helped us to get back to normal life more quickly	2
If vaccination helped Australia's economy recover.	3
If I felt confident that it was safe for me to get the vaccine	4
If large numbers of people around the world had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	5
If large numbers of Australians had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19.....	6
If COVID-19 vaccines were shown to be reducing the number of people getting severe symptoms or dying.....	7
If many of my family and/or social circle had been vaccinated for COVID-19.....	8
If my workplace/ employer gave me time off to get vaccinated (and recover if I had side effects).....	9
If it gave me more freedom to travel within Australia	10
If a COVID-19 vaccine was required for overseas travel.....	11
If it meant I didn't have to quarantine on arrival or return when travelling interstate or overseas	12
If I was required to interact more in person with the public and/or vulnerable/ immuno-compromised people	13
If it meant I didn't have to self-isolate if there was a local outbreak of COVID-19.....	14
If there were changes to my health that made me more at risk from COVID-19	15
Other (please specify)	16
None	17

Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 1st – 5th July 2021.

ASK ALL

Q6. Have the recent COVID-19 outbreaks changed any of your attitudes or behaviours towards the COVID-19 vaccine or your current COVIDSafe behaviours?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

COVID-19 vaccine

The recent outbreaks have made me more likely to consider being vaccinated1

The recent outbreaks have made me book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination2

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to go and ~~actually get~~ vaccinated3

Social interaction

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to limit my social interaction with others.....4

Hygiene

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to take greater hygiene measures (e.g. hand washing, using hand sanitiser, etc.)5

Face masks

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to wear face masks more often6

Checking in

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to check in at businesses or venues more often (via the QR code or manually)8

None/no change7

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Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research

Department of Health

Report | August 2021 (Wave 11)



Research methodology



- Online survey conducted via an online research panel



- Questions relating to the COVID 19 vaccine were included in Quantum's AustraliaNOW survey – a weekly survey of 1,000 Australians tracking attitudes and behaviours during the COVID 19 pandemic.



- Nationally representative sample by age, gender and State
- Total sample size of n 1,000 per wave



Fieldwork dates:

Wave 1: 2 nd	6 th October 2020	Wave 7 (Part 1): 8 th	12 th April 2021
Wave 2: 5 th	9 th November 2020	Wave 7 (Part 2): 15 th	17 th April 2021
Wave 3: 3 rd	7 th December 2020	Wave 8: 6 th	10 th May 2021
Wave 4: 14 th	16 th January 2021	Wave 9: 3 rd	7 th June 2021
Wave 5: 4 th	8 th February 2021	Wave 10: 1 st	5 th July 2021
Wave 6: 4 th	9 th March 2021	Wave 11: 5th	9th August 2021

The project was carried out in line with the Market Research International Standard, AS ISO 20252.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19
Vaccine Research, August 2021 (Wave 11)

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Key take outs

1. **Intention to take up the COVID-19 vaccine has increased significantly, with 79% intending to get, or already are, vaccinated.** Increases are reflected across all States, both metropolitan and regional areas, in males and females and across all age cohorts (particularly under 70). This comes as the country faces the challenges presented by more virulent COVID-19 variants, including an increasing frequency of outbreaks and lockdowns.
2. **The recent COVID-19 outbreaks have prompted one in five Australians (21%) to come forward and get vaccinated.** Outbreaks have been influential across all States in prompting vaccine consideration, particularly for under 40s. Appointment booking has increased this month in NSW, with almost a quarter having booked an appointment as a result of the recent outbreak. Under 40s have been more likely to consider vaccination as a result of the outbreaks (48%), whilst those aged 60+ are more likely to follow through (27%).
3. **Over a third (37%) of all Australians have been influenced by the recent outbreaks to consider, speak to their doctor, book an appointment and/or get the AstraZeneca vaccine.** Consideration of the AstraZeneca vaccine as a result of recent outbreaks is highest in NSW (23%) and in under 40s (23%).



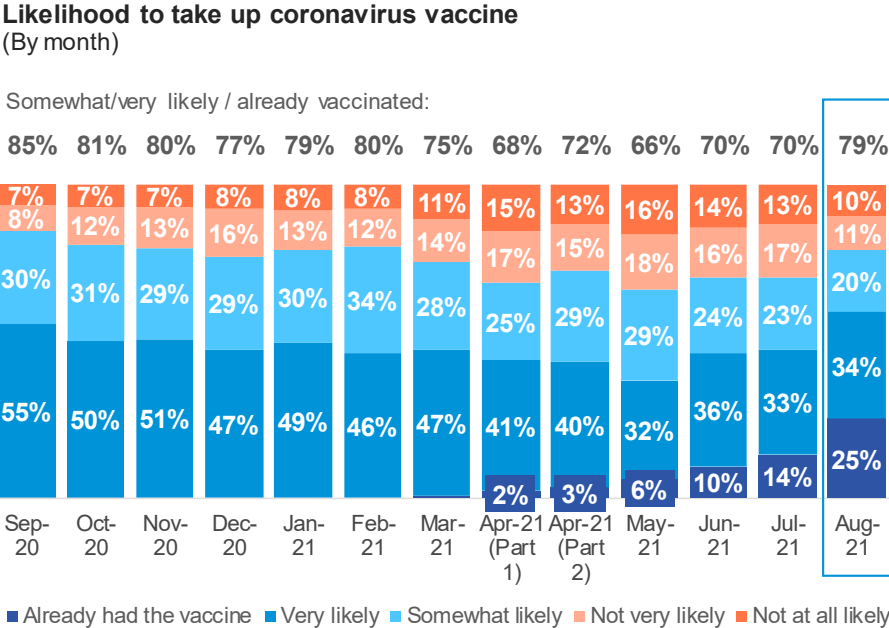


Findings: Sentiment Towards a COVID-19 Vaccine

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Research

Intention to take up the COVID-19 vaccine has increased significantly, with 79% intending to get, or already are, vaccinated

- Increases in intentions are reflected across all States, both metropolitan and regional areas, in males and females and across all age cohorts (particularly under 70).
- The proportion of the community that is not very/not at all likely to take up the COVID-19 vaccine has fallen from 30% to 21%.



August 2021:

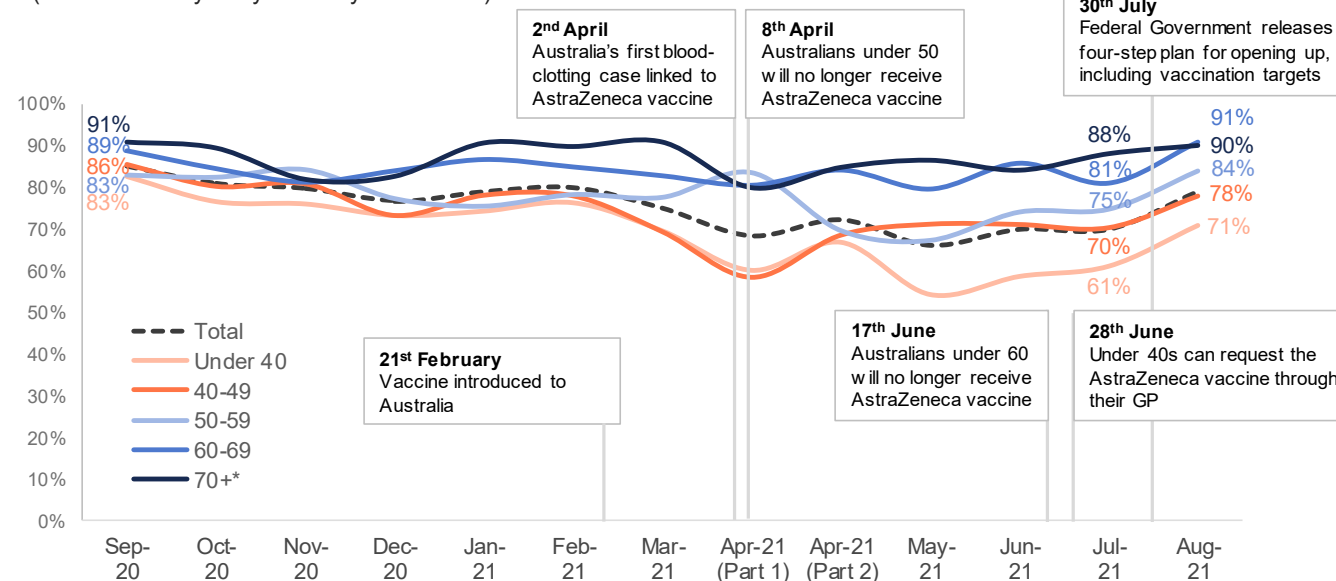
	Somewhat/very likely / already vaccinated	Not very / not at all likely	Monthly change in likelihood (percentage points)
STATE			
NSW	81%	19%	+10
VIC	77%	23%	+7
QLD	73%	27%	+7
SA	88%	12%	+13
WA	82%	18%	+11
REGION			
Metropolitan	81%	19%	+7
Regional	75%	25%	+10
GENDER			
Male	81%	19%	+9
Female	78%	22%	+9
AGE			
18-29	66%	34%	+11
30-39	76%	24%	+7
40-49	78%	22%	+8
50-59	84%	16%	+9
60-69	91%	9%	+10
70+	90%	10%	+2
Under 40s	71%	29%	+10

Base: All Australians, n=1,000 (August 2021– AustraliaNOW). Note: Sample sizes do not allow reporting for TAS, ACT and NT.
NSW n=328; VIC n=255; QLD n=210; SA n=80; WA n=83. Metropolitan n=660; Regional n=340. Male n=490; Female n=506. 18-29 n=225; 30-39 n=180; 40-49 n=186; 50-59 n=148; 60-69 n=164; 70+ n=97 Under 40s n=405.
Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

Vaccination intentions have increased across all age cohorts, particularly in those under 70

- This comes as the country faces the challenges presented by more virulent COVID-19 variants, including an increasing frequency of outbreaks and lockdowns.
- It also coincides with the Federal Government announcing its plan for opening up the country, including vaccination targets for less frequent lockdowns and borders opening.

Likelihood to take up coronavirus vaccine
(Somewhat/very likely / already vaccinated)



Base: All Australians, n=1,000 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW). N=approx. 1,000 per wave.

Under 40, n=385-429 per wave; 50-59 years, 141-169 per wave; 60-69 years, n=149-179 per wave; 70+ years, n=72-129 per wave.

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

The recent COVID-19 outbreaks have prompted one in five Australians (21%) to come forward and get vaccinated

- Recent COVID-19 outbreaks around the country have prompted vaccination consideration for just over a third (36%) of Australians and converted one in five (21%).
- They have also prompted other COVIDSafe behaviours, including checking in more often (69%), taking greater hygiene measures (61%), wearing face masks more often (61%) and limiting social interaction (57%).

Impact of latest COVID-19 outbreaks on attitudes/behaviours – by month

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to:

	COVID-19 vaccine	Aug-21	Jul-21	Jun-21 (Melb outbreak)
Consider being vaccinated		36%	38%	32%
Book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination		18%	19%	14%
Go and actually get vaccinated		21%	15%	12%
Social interaction				
Limit my social interaction with others		57%	58%	38%
Hygiene				
Take greater hygiene measures		61%	64%	45%
Face masks				
Wear face masks more often		61%	67%	36%
Checking in				
Check in at businesses or venues more often		69%	66%	N/A
None/no change		15%	14%	34%

Base: Australians, n=1,000 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Jul-21 n=1,004. Jun-21 n=1,001.

Q6. Have the recent COVID-19 outbreaks changed any of your attitudes or behaviours towards the COVID-19 vaccine or your current COVIDSafe behaviours?

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Outbreaks have been influential across all States in prompting vaccine consideration, particularly for under 40s

- Appointment booking has increased this month in NSW, with almost a quarter having done so as a result of the recent outbreak.
- Under 40s have been more likely to consider vaccination as a result of the outbreaks (48%), whilst those aged 60+ are more likely to follow through (27%).
- Those in NSW are more likely to have been prompted by the outbreaks to check into venues more often.

Impact of latest COVID-19 outbreaks on attitudes/behaviours – by subgroup

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to:

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to:							State			Age		
	COVID-19 vaccine	Aug-21	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Under 40	40-59	60+		
Book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination	Consider being vaccinated	36%	34%	38%	38%	37%	36%	48%	31%	23%		
	Book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination	18%	24%	16%	14%	15%	10%	24%	19%	7%		
	Go and actually get vaccinated	21%	21%	21%	16%	18%	25%	15%	22%	27%		
Social interaction												
	Limit my social interaction with others	57%	66%	55%	64%	46%	37%	61%	56%	55%		
Hygiene												
	Take greater hygiene measures	61%	65%	61%	57%	57%	58%	65%	57%	60%		
Face masks												
	Wear face masks more often	61%	69%	69%	62%	60%	24%	63%	59%	61%		
Checking in												
	Check in at businesses or venues more often	69%	74%	67%	70%	56%	60%	72%	65%	68%		
	None/no change	15%	13%	13%	15%	18%	19%	10%	16%	21%		

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians, n=1,000 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW). *Note: Small sample size (see below).

State: NSW n=328; VIC n=255; QLD n=210; SA n=80; WA n=83. Age: Under 40 n=405; 50-59 n=334; 60+ n=261.

Q6. Have the recent COVID-19 outbreaks changed any of your attitudes or behaviours towards the COVID-19 vaccine or your current COVIDSafe behaviours?

Over a third (37%) have been influenced by the recent outbreaks to consider the AstraZeneca vaccine

- On 28th June, the Federal Government's advice that people aged under 60 and not in a priority group could visit their doctor to talk about having the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.
- As a result of the recent outbreaks, 17% indicate that they have considered the AstraZeneca vaccine, and 11% have received the vaccine. Consideration of AstraZeneca is highest in NSW (23%) and in under 40s (23%).

Impact of latest COVID-19 outbreaks on AstraZeneca consideration

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to:

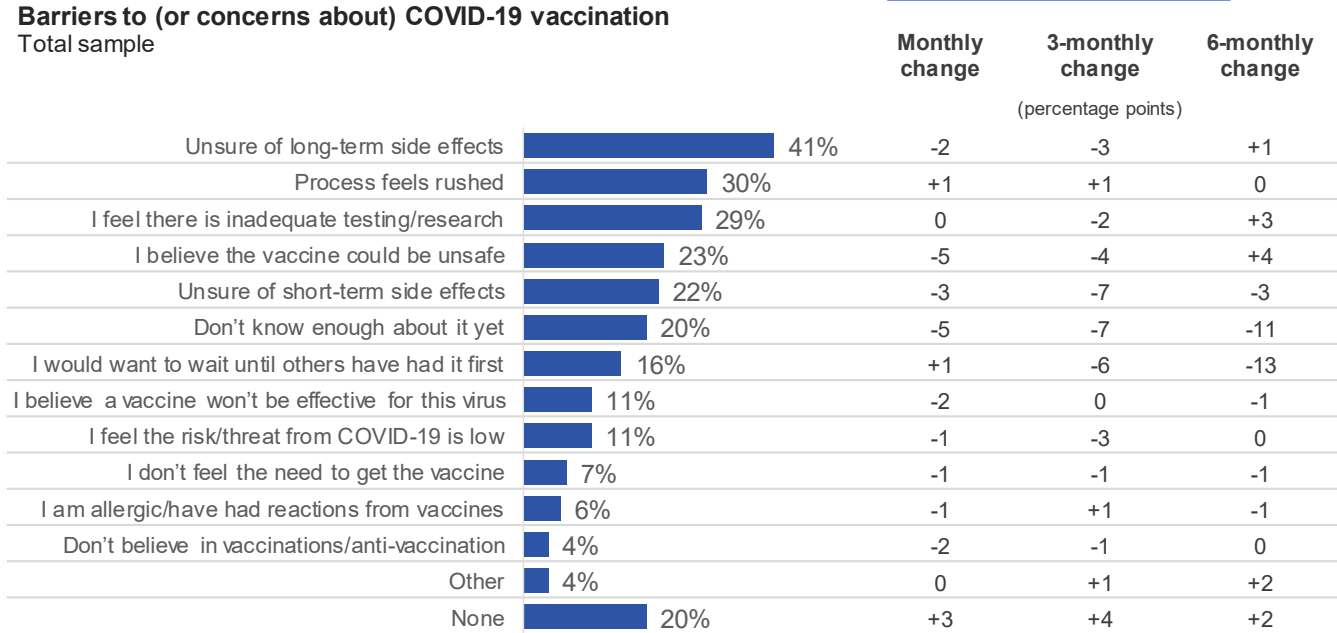
	Aug-21	State					Age		
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	Under 40	40-59	60+
Consider the AstraZeneca vaccine	17%	23%	12%	14%	18%	14%	23%	15%	11%
Speak to my doctor regarding the AstraZeneca vaccine	12%	14%	12%	13%	10%	9%	16%	11%	8%
Book an appointment to have the AstraZeneca vaccine	8%	9%	8%	6%	3%	11%	10%	5%	7%
Go and actually get the AstraZeneca vaccine	11%	10%	12%	9%	13%	11%	8%	9%	17%
ANY OF THE ABOVE: 37%		44%	34%	34%	34%	32%	44%	31%	33%
None - it has not influenced me	34%	29%	38%	36%	33%	36%	37%	40%	22%
I wasn't aware that I was eligible for the AstraZeneca vaccine	5%	4%	6%	6%	7%	3%	8%	5%	1%
Not applicable - vaccinated prior to recent outbreaks	24%	23%	21%	24%	25%	28%	11%	23%	45%

Base: Australians, n=1,000 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW).

Q7. On 28th June 2021, the Prime Minister of Australia announced that people aged under 60 could visit their doctor to talk about having the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. Have the recent COVID-19 outbreaks made you any more likely to consider getting the AstraZeneca vaccine than you previously would have been?

Despite increases in vaccination intentions, some concerns among those yet to be fully vaccinated remain

- Four in five Australians (80%) that are yet to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 have some level of concern about vaccination.
- The main concern (possible long term side effects) has dropped slightly this month, as have concerns about safety and possible short-term side effects.
- Longer term, the feeling that they don't know enough about it yet has dropped considerably over the last six months, as has the inclination to want to wait until others have had it first.



Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=750 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
 Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Australians aged under 40 years remain the most likely to express concerns about the COVID-19 vaccines

- As many as 87% of those aged under 40 that are yet to receive the COVID-19 vaccine have expressed at least one concern.
- More prominent concerns or barriers for this age cohort compared to others include the development process feeling rushed, not feeling knowledgeable about the vaccines and the risk from COVID-19 being low.

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination By age	Under 40 (n=361)	40-49 (n=145)	50-59 (n=98)	60+ (n=146)
Any barriers/concerns	87%	79%	79%	63%
Unsure of long-term side effects	41%	42%	42%	39%
Process feels rushed	34%	31%	27%	21%
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	30%	28%	34%	23%
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	26%	23%	25%	15%
Unsure of short-term side effects	20%	24%	28%	22%
Don't know enough about it yet	27%	14%	19%	11%
I would want to wait until others have had it first	18%	17%	18%	8%
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	12%	10%	13%	10%
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	14%	11%	11%	5%
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	8%	5%	8%	6%
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	7%	2%	8%	5%
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	4%	6%	5%	1%
Other	3%	3%	8%	6%
None	13%	21%	21%	37%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=750 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW).

Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?



Females continue express greater concerns about the COVID-19 vaccines than males

- Females that are not yet vaccinated remain significantly more likely than males to be concerned or discouraged by the potential long-term side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine (47% compared to 35%).
- After increasing last month, there has been a decrease in the proportion of males believing the vaccine could be unsafe (down from 31% in July to 17% in August).

Barriers to (or concerns about) COVID-19 vaccination
By gender

	Males (n=357)	Females (n=392)
Any barriers/concerns	73%	86%
Unsure of long-term side effects	35%	47%
Process feels rushed	24%	35%
I feel there is inadequate testing/research	23%	34%
I believe the vaccine could be unsafe	-14 p.p. 17%	28%
Unsure of short-term side effects	18%	26%
Don't know enough about it yet	14%	26%
I would want to wait until others have had it first	15%	16%
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus	11%	12%
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low	11%	12%
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine	7%	7%
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines	4%	7%
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination	5%	3%
Other	2%	6%
None	27%	14%

Blue text indicates result is significantly higher than other subgroups

Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=750 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW). Note: Sample for 'Gender fluid/diverse/non-binary' too small to show (n=1)

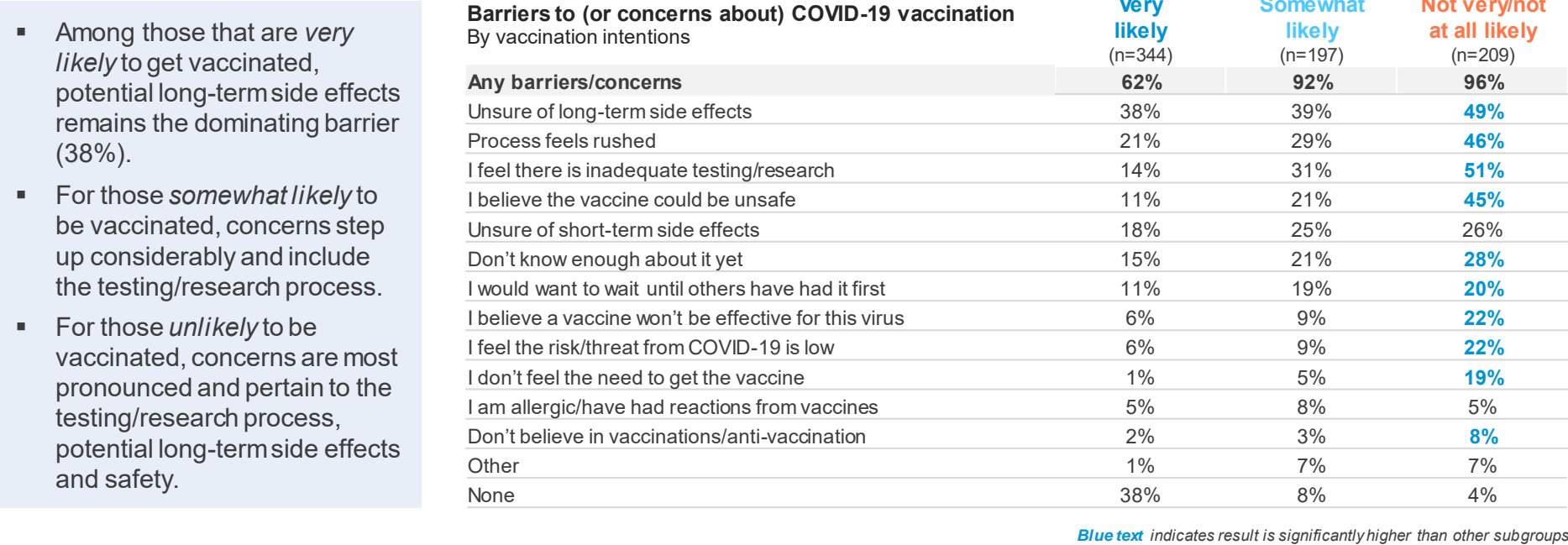
Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

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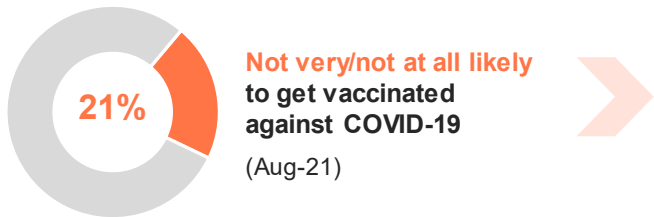
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There are differing barriers according to where people sit on the consideration scale



Base: Australians that have not had the COVID-19 vaccine, n=750 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
Q4. What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19? / Which of the following (if any) are preventing you from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

Safety assurance remains the most motivating factor for vaccine consideration among those unlikely to be vaccinated



- For over a third of those unlikely to be vaccinated (35%), having confidence in the safety of the vaccine would encourage them to reconsider.
- Secondary factors included seeing large numbers of people around the world safely vaccinated, if changes to personal health made COVID-19 more of a risk, or if vaccines were shown to reduce the number of people getting severe symptoms or dying.

What would encourage you to consider being vaccinated? Those not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated

	Aug-21	Monthly change (percentage points)
If I felt confident that it was safe for me to get the vaccine	35%	+4
If large numbers of people around the world had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	17%	-1
If there were changes to my health that made me more at risk from COVID-19	14%	+3
If vaccines were shown to reduce the number of people getting severe symptoms or dying	13%	-7
If vaccination helped us to get back to normal life more quickly	9%	-4
If a COVID-19 vaccine was required for overseas travel	9%	-2
If large numbers of Australians had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	9%	-8
If it meant I didn't have to quarantine on arrival or return when travelling interstate or overseas	8%	-2
If it gave me more freedom to travel within Australia	8%	0
If vaccination helped Australia's economy recover	7%	0
If it meant I didn't have to self-isolate if there was a local outbreak of COVID-19	6%	-7
If many of my family and/or social circle had been vaccinated for COVID-19	6%	-1
If there was community transmission of COVID-19 in my local area	5%	-3
If I was required to interact more in person with the public and/or vulnerable/immuno-compromised people	5%	-3
If my workplace/employer gave me time off to get vaccinated (and recover if I had side effects)	5%	-3
Other	6%	+1
None	26%	+3

NET ANY:

74%

Under 40s: 79%

Monthly change (percentage points)

Base: Not very/not at all likely to get vaccinated against COVID-19, n=209 (August 2021 – AustraliaNOW).
Q3. Which of the following (if any) would encourage you to consider being vaccinated against COVID-19?

About the research

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Respondent profile

Nationally representative sample by age, gender and location.

N 1,000 per wave

Wave sample size	N=	Wave sample size	N=

Quotas and weighting

Quotas were applied to ensure a representative spread of responses by gender, age and State. Data has also been weighted by State and gender to achieve a representative profile.

Sample accuracy

The results are based off a total sample size of n=1,000, yielding a maximum margin of error of +/- 3.1% (at the 95% confidence interval). This means that for a result of 50%, we can be 95% confident that the result in the actual population will range between 46.9% and 53.1%.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19
Vaccine Research, August 2021 (Wave 11)

August 2021 (Wave 11)	Proportion of sample (weighted %)	Number of respondents (n=)
Total	100%	1,000
Gender		
Male	49%	490
Female	51%	506
Gender fluid/diverse/non-binary	0%	4
18 – 29 years	22%	225
30 – 39 years	18%	180
40 – 49 years	19%	186
50 – 59 years	15%	148
60 – 69 years	17%	164
70+ years	10%	97
NSW	32%	328
VIC	26%	255
QLD	20%	210
SA	7%	80
WA	10%	83
Other	5%	44

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Appendix I: Survey questions

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Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 5th 9th August 2021.

Department of Health — Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research, August 2021 (Wave 11)

ASK ALL

Q2. If a government-approved vaccine to prevent or minimise the severity of coronavirus/COVID-19 was available to you right now at no cost, how likely would you be personally to get vaccinated?

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Very likely 1
Somewhat likely 2
Not very likely 3
Not at all likely 4

I've already had the vaccine 5

ASK IF Q2=1-4

Q4. [IF Q2=2-4] Which of the following (if any) are **preventing you** from considering being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[IF Q2=1] What concerns, if any, do you have about being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

I believe the vaccine could be unsafe 1
I feel there is inadequate testing/research 2
Unsure of short-term side effects in the days just following vaccination 14
Unsure of long-term side effects 3
Process feels rushed 4
Don't believe in vaccinations/anti-vaccination 5
Don't know enough about it yet 6
I am allergic/have had reactions from vaccines 7
I feel the risk/threat from COVID-19 is low 8
I don't feel the need to get the vaccine 9
I would want to wait until others have had it first 10
I believe a vaccine won't be effective for this virus 11
Other (please specify) 12
None 13

Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 5th 9th August 2021.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research, August 2021 (Wave 11)

ASK IF Q2=3-4 (NOT AT ALL LIKELY/ NOT VERY LIKELY)

Q3. Which of the following (if any) would encourage you to consider being vaccinated against COVID-19?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE, RANDOMISE]

If there was community transmission of COVID-19 in my local area.....	1
If vaccination helped us to get back to normal life more quickly	2
If vaccination helped Australia's economy recover.	3
If I felt confident that it was safe for me to get the vaccine	4
If large numbers of people around the world had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19	5
If large numbers of Australians had been safely vaccinated against COVID-19.....	6
If COVID-19 vaccines were shown to be reducing the number of people getting severe symptoms or dying.....	7
If many of my family and/or social circle had been vaccinated for COVID-19.....	8
If my workplace/ employer gave me time off to get vaccinated (and recover if I had side effects).....	9
If it gave me more freedom to travel within Australia	10
If a COVID-19 vaccine was required for overseas travel	11
If it meant I didn't have to quarantine on arrival or return when travelling interstate or overseas	12
If I was required to interact more in person with the public and/or vulnerable/ immuno-compromised people	13
If it meant I didn't have to self-isolate if there was a local outbreak of COVID-19.....	14
If there were changes to my health that made me more at risk from COVID-19	15
Other (please specify)	16
None	17



Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 5th 9th August 2021.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research, August 2021 (Wave 11)

ASK ALL

Q6. Have the recent COVID-19 outbreaks changed any of your attitudes or behaviours towards the COVID-19 vaccine or your current COVIDSafe behaviours?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

COVID-19 vaccine

The recent outbreaks have made me more likely to consider being vaccinated1

The recent outbreaks have made me book/attempt to book a COVID-19 vaccination2

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to go and ~~actually get~~ vaccinated3

Social interaction

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to limit my social interaction with others.....4

Hygiene

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to take greater hygiene measures (e.g. hand washing, using hand sanitiser, etc.).....5

Face masks

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to wear face masks more often6

Checking in

The recent outbreaks have prompted me to check in at businesses or venues more often (via the QR code or manually)8

None/no change7



Survey questions

Survey questions added to AustraliaNOW from 5th 9th August 2021.

Department of Health – Sentiment Towards COVID-19 Vaccine Research, August 2021 (Wave 11)

ASK ALL

Q7. On 28th June 2021, the Prime Minister of Australia announced that people aged under 60 could visit their doctor to talk about having the **AstraZeneca** COVID-19 vaccine.

Have the recent COVID-19 outbreaks made you any more likely to consider getting the **AstraZeneca** vaccine than you previously would have been?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

- The recent outbreaks have made me more likely to consider the **AstraZeneca** vaccine 1
- The recent outbreaks have prompted me to speak to my doctor regarding the **AstraZeneca** vaccine..... 2
- The recent outbreaks have prompted me to book an appointment to have the **AstraZeneca** vaccine..... 3
- The recent outbreaks have prompted me to go and actually get the **AstraZeneca** vaccine 4
- None - it has not influenced me 5
- I wasn't aware that I was eligible for the AstraZeneca vaccine 6
- Not applicable - vaccinated prior to recent outbreaks 7



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