

# Survey of Trust and Satisfaction in Australian Democracy (Nov 2023)

A survey by the Trust and Transparency Unit, Australian Public Service Commission

*Note: programming instructions are included in italics.*

## Sampling Instructions

- *Online only (no CATI)*
- *In English only (no translation)*
- *n= 1,000 as many as we can get from ACT, NT, TAS, and limit NSW, VIC, SA, QLD, WA to approx. 150 each; keep nationally representative quotas for age, gender and location*

## Survey Instruction

### About the survey

This survey is being conducted by [Dynata](#) on behalf of the Trust and Transparency Unit at the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC). Data from this survey may be shared across the Commonwealth Government as part of ongoing research (for example, the Strengthening Democracy Taskforce at the Department of Home Affairs).

In this survey, we invite you to share your thoughts on topics related to public services, civic engagement and democracy in Australia. By participating in this survey, you can help us identify the strengths and weaknesses of government services and democracy in Australia and contribute to its continuous improvement. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this important survey.

### Your privacy

This survey is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the [Commonwealth Privacy Act \(1988\)](#) and [Australian Privacy Principles](#).

Your survey responses are confidential. Your personal identifiers such as name and email address will be removed and only anonymous survey responses will be provided to the Australian Public Service Commission.



Data provided will only be used for informing government policy and programs, and research and development. Data will not be used for enforcement related purposes, including compliance, or making decisions on individual's access to public services, such as eligibility for a payment or service.

You may apply to access your personal information held by Dynata and seek to have that information corrected. Dynata's [Privacy Policy](#) contains information about how you may access and seek correction of your personal information. Dynata's [Privacy Policy](#) also outlines how you can make a privacy complaint.

### Voluntary participation

Participation in this survey is voluntary. You can stop participating at any time by closing the browser or navigating away. If you stop, the responses you have already provided will NOT be used in analysis and reporting.

### Survey length

The survey takes 20-25 minutes to complete. You can take a break at any time by selecting 'Save and exit', and then return to the survey later.

### Your wellbeing

This survey has been reviewed to ensure it does not cause harm or excessive discomfort to participants. However, if at any time this survey causes you distress, you can stop participating. Please note the following hotlines can be called for support:

- [Lifeline](#) – 13 11 14
- [beyondblue](#) – 1300 22 4636
- [Suicide Call Back Service](#) – 1300 659 467
- [Mensline Australia](#) – 1300 789 978
- [1800Respect](#) – 1800 737 732
- [National Debt Helpline](#) - 1800 007 007

For further support options please see [Mental Health Australia](#).

### Further information

If you would like to know more about this survey, you can contact Dynata at (02) 7923 9800, or 131 York Street Sydney NSW 2000.



## Consent

### PRIVACY NOTICE

The Trust and Transparency Unit in the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) is collecting your personal information as part of your responses to the Survey of Trust in Australian Democracy. In this survey, we invite you to share your thoughts on topics related to public services, civic engagement and democracy in Australia. By participating in this survey, you can help us identify the strengths and weaknesses of government services and democracy in Australia and contribute to its continuous improvement.

For the same purpose, we may provide this information in a de-identified form to other Commonwealth Government agencies as part of ongoing research (for example, the Strengthening Democracy Taskforce at the Department of Home Affairs), and other third parties such as authorised researchers external to Government under a data sharing scheme. De-identified means that no one would be able to identify an individual from the information provided.

The survey is facilitated by Dynata on behalf of the Trust and Transparency Unit. Dynata is an independent market research firm, who is the world's largest first-party data company for insights, activation and measurement. If you have any questions about how Dynata handles your personal information, please visit their [privacy policy](#).

This survey will take about 20-25 minutes to complete depending on your responses. Please be assured that all information that you provide is confidential and will be used only for the purposes of this research.

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. If you feel uncomfortable answering any questions, you can decline to answer or withdraw from the survey at any point. There are no right or wrong answers to this survey; we are simply seeking to understand your point of view.

APSC will not provide the information collected from you to anyone else outside the agency other than to parties mentioned above unless you have given consent for us to do this, or we are authorised or required to do so by law.

The privacy and security of your personal information is important to us, and is protected by law. APSC's [privacy policy](#) explains how APSC handles and protects the information provided by you. Our [privacy policy](#) also explains how you can request access to or correct the personal information we hold about you, and who to contact if you have a privacy enquiry or complaint. If you require a copy of our Privacy Policy contact the Privacy Officer at [privacy@apsc.gov.au](mailto:privacy@apsc.gov.au).

I consent to the use of my personal (including sensitive) information as outlined in the privacy collection notice and understand that some or all of my responses may be used by the agency and disclosed to third parties in a de-identified form.



# Survey Questions

## Section 1

In this first section, we are asking a few opening questions about yourself.

S1. Are you an:

- Australian Citizen (currently living in Australia)
- Australian Citizen (currently living overseas)
- Australian Permanent Resident (currently living in Australia)
- Individual temporarily in Australia (residing in Australia with a visa, e.g. student visa, partner visa, skilled person visa, graduate visa, working holiday visa)
- Other (please specify)

S2. What is your age (years)?

- Below 18 (*Terminate if selected*)
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75-84
- 85+

S3. What is your gender?

- Man or male
- Woman or female
- Non-binary
- I use a different term (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

S4. Do you live in one of the following city areas? [Yes – No]

- Sydney (including Greater Western Sydney), Newcastle, Wollongong or the Central Coast
- Melbourne or Geelong
- Brisbane, Gold Coast or the Sunshine Coast
- Perth
- Adelaide
- Canberra



S5. Please enter the postcode for your usual place of residence:

- [Text box]
- Prefer not to say

S5a. In which state or territory do you currently live? *(This question only asked if 'Prefer not to say' was chosen at S5.)*

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia
- Other Territories (including Norfolk Island, the Ashmore and Cartier Islands, Australian Antarctic Territory, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Coral Sea Islands, Jervis Bay Territory, and the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands)

## Section 2

In this section of the survey, we will ask about your experiences and thoughts of democracy in Australia. Australia's democracy is made up of many institutions, processes and principles. Democracy is a set of institutions and values that allow humans to decide, as equals, how they will live together. We are interested in your personal views about Australia's democracy.

Q1. How would you describe your understanding of how democracy works in Australia?

- I understand nothing about it
- I understand it slightly
- I understand it moderately
- I understand it very well
- I understand it completely

Q2. How important is it for you to live in a democratically governed country?

- Not important at all
- Somewhat important
- Important
- Very important



- Not sure

Q3. In thinking of what democracy means to you, how important do you consider each of the following elements of democracy? [Not important at all - Somewhat important - Important - Very important – Not sure]

- People can freely express political opinions and ideas about society
- Elections are fair
- The courts and law system are free from political influence, bias and external pressures
- Public services are reliable
- People get a say on the government's priorities
- Everyone is treated fairly regardless of their gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion or other characteristics
- There are enough checks to ensure politicians and government officials can't abuse their power
- The law is applied impartially regardless of who you are
- People of all ages can easily learn how democracy works
- A free and independent media
- Free access to information
- Human rights are protected

Q4. How well do you think Australia performs in each of the following areas of democracy? [Very poor – Poor – Fair – Good – Very good – Not sure]

- People can freely express political opinions and ideas about society
- Elections are fair
- The courts and law system are free from political influence, bias and external pressures
- Public services are reliable
- People get a say on the government's priorities
- Everyone is treated fairly regardless of their gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion or other characteristics
- There are enough checks to ensure politicians and government officials can't abuse their power
- The law is applied impartially regardless of who you are
- People of all ages can easily learn how democracy works
- A free and independent media
- Free access to information
- Human rights are protected

Q5. In the last 12 months, have you used any of the following? [Yes – No – Not sure]

- Public education services (e.g. public primary and secondary schools, public universities, TAFE)
- Private education services that receive public funding (e.g. private primary and secondary schools)



- Public health services (e.g. public hospitals, clinics, public health agencies)
- Private health services fully funded by Medicare or partially (e.g. appointments)
- Social welfare services (e.g. housing programs, social security benefits like Child Care Subsidy, Family Tax Benefit, JobSeeker, employment services, NDIS, aged care services)
- Environmental services (e.g. national parks, state forests, local parks)
- Natural disaster response or recovery services
- Public safety and law enforcement services (e.g. police departments, fire departments, ambulance and emergency medical services)
- Public transportation services (e.g. buses, trains, trams, ferries)
- Legal and regulatory services (e.g. Fair Work Commission, Ombudsmen, legal aid)
- Tax services (e.g. Australian Taxation Office's online platforms)
- Media from public broadcasters (e.g. ABC or SBS, including TV, radio and online)

Q5a. How satisfied or dissatisfied were you with your most recent experience with each of the following?  
[Very dissatisfied – Dissatisfied – Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied – Satisfied – Very satisfied – Not sure]

- [Items from Q5 above]

Q6. How much do you trust or distrust each of the following institutions? [Strongly distrust – Distrust – Neither trust or distrust – Trust – Strongly trust – Not sure]

- Commonwealth/federal government
- Commonwealth/federal parliament
- Your state or territory government
- Your state or territory parliament
- Your local council
- Political parties
- Public servants (non-elected government employees at federal, state or local levels of government)
- Courts and legal system
- Police and law enforcement
- Public health institutions
- Ombudsmen
- Ambulance, fire and other emergency services
- The Reserve Bank of Australia
- The Australian Electoral Commission
- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Australian Defence Forces
- Public broadcasters (e.g. ABC, SBS)



Q7. Thinking about [one item with the lowest trust level selected in Q6, if more than one at the same level, just randomly select one], to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

[Strongly disagree – Disagree – Neither agree nor disagree – Agree – Strongly agree – Not sure]

- They act with high integrity and are committed to doing the right thing
- They listen and respond to the needs and concerns of people in a timely and effective manner
- They act consistently with their responsibility to fulfil commitments and obligations
- They are transparent, inclusive and willing to engage with people
- They value fairness and equity, and treat people with respect and dignity
- They provide high-quality services that meet the needs and expectations of people
- They encourage and facilitate active engagement of people in their operation and decisions

Q8. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? [Strongly disagree – Disagree – Neither agree nor disagree – Agree – Strongly agree – Not sure]

- Australia's electoral system represents my vote accurately and fairly
- Most people don't understand when information in the media is misleading or fake during elections
- Corruption is widespread in Australia's democratic institutions and processes
- Politicians and government services deal with the issues that matter to me
- Australia's democratic institutions and processes unfairly restrict my freedoms
- It's worth trying to fix the problems that democracy may have
- Australia's democracy is on the right track
- Australian democracy is kept safe from foreign interference.

Q9. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way democracy works in Australia?

- Very dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Satisfied
- Very satisfied
- Not sure

Q10. You indicated that you are ['very dissatisfied', 'dissatisfied', 'neither satisfied nor dissatisfied' with] / ['not sure' with how you feel about] the way democracy works in Australia. Which of the following best reflects your opinion about democracy in Australia?

- We need to continue building upon what we've got to improve democracy in Australia
  - Please explain why [text box]
- We need to remove what we've got and start again to improve democracy in Australia
  - Please explain why [text box]





- There are political systems other than democracy that will work better in Australia
  - Please explain why [text box]
- Not sure
- Other (please specify)

Q10a. Have you ever done any of the following because you were dissatisfied with the way democracy works in Australia? (Choose as many as apply)

- Commented or expressed opinions online
- Written to one of your elected representatives
- Participated in a protest
- Connected (or tried to connect) with others who share your dissatisfaction
- None of the above
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

### Section 3

In this section, we ask about your experience of community involvement and public life.

Q11. In primary or secondary school, did you participate in any school-run civics or citizenship learning activities (e.g. democratic values and procedures, system of the government, political and legal institutions)?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Not applicable (I did not attend primary or secondary school in Australia)

Q11a. In primary or secondary school, did you visit a state, territory or federal parliament to participate in civics learning activities? (*If 'Not applicable' is chosen in Q11, do not show this question*)

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Not applicable (I did not attend primary or secondary school in Australia)

Q11b. Have you participated in any other civics or citizenship learning activities outside of primary and secondary school (e.g. citizenship processes, TAFE, university)?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure



Q13. Would you have voted in the most recent referendum if you didn't have to vote?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Not eligible to vote

There are many ways to participate and influence democracy in Australia.

Q14. In the last 12 months, which of the following have you actively participated in? (Choose as many as apply)

- Tried to influence someone's political view in a discussion
- Shared a political opinion online
- Voted in a state/territory election
- Voted in a local council election
- Voted in a referendum
- Signed a petition
- Contacted a politician (e.g. wrote or spoke to a Federal or State Member of Parliament)
- Attended a protest, march, demonstration
- Volunteered or worked for a political campaign (e.g. door knocking, organising rallies, calling voters, hanging signs)
- Boycotted a certain product for a political reason
- Been a member of a political party
- Been a member of or actively involved in a political or advocacy group (not a political party)
- Commented on a public consultation process
- Submitted a review to a national commission
- Attended a local council meeting
- None of the above

Q15. Which of the following (if any) discourages you from participating in activities in the previous question? (Choose as many as apply)

- I don't have time
- I'm not interested
- I don't know how to participate
- My participation won't make a difference
- The participation processes are not fair or open
- I had a negative experience and don't want to do it again
- I don't have any networks (e.g. family, friends, colleagues) to encourage my participation)
- I would have trouble accessing activities (e.g. inaccessible voting booths, no transport)
- I feel uncomfortable or unsafe participating



- Other (please specify)
- None of the above

Q14a. In the last 12 months, were any of the political campaigns you actively participated in related to the 2023 Australian Indigenous Voice referendum? *(This question only asked if 'Contacted a politician', 'Attended a protest, march, demonstration' or 'Volunteered or worked for a political campaign' was chosen at Q14)*

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Q14b. Was this the first time you have ever participated in any activity related to Australian election or politics? *(This question only asked if 'Yes' was chosen at Q14a)*

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Democracy relies on access to information. The next question ask about your thoughts on different sources of information.

Q16. How much do you trust each of the following as a reliable source of information? [Strongly distrust – Distrust – Neither trust or distrust – Trust – Strongly trust]

- Hardcopy or online newspapers (e.g. the Herald Sun, The Australian Financial Review, the Sydney Morning Herald, The Guardian)
- Commercial free-to-air television (e.g. Seven, Nine, Ten, 9Go!, 7Mate)
- Public free-to-air television (e.g. ABC)
- Free online 'video on demand' services from Australian commercial networks (e.g. 7Plus, SBS on Demand, Ten Play, 9Now, Freeview Plus)
- Paid streaming services (e.g. Netflix, Stan, Disney+, Amazon Prime)
- Pay or subscription TV channels (e.g. Foxtel)
- YouTube
- Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or TikTok)
- Online discussion and communication forums (e.g. Reddit, Discord)
- Government sources (e.g. official websites, announcements)
- Scientific or academic reports and newsletters
- Friends and family
- Workplace (e.g. colleagues or employer)
- Local community group or neighbour
- Religious group



- Non-profit organisations (e.g. charities, advocacy groups, social clubs, sports clubs)

Q17. How much do you trust or distrust the following groups? [Strongly distrust – Distrust – Neither trust or distrust – Trust – Strongly trust]

- My family
- My friends
- My neighbours
- People I know personally
- People I meet for the first time
- People with different views on religion to mine
- People with an ethnicity different to mine
- People with a nationality different to mine

Q18. How much do you trust or distrust each of the following organisations? [Strongly distrust – Distrust – Neither trust or distrust – Trust – Strongly trust]

- Small and medium-sized businesses (e.g. hairdressers, cafes, gyms)
- Large-sized-businesses (e.g. major retailers, banks)
- Multinational corporations (e.g. multinational technology companies, manufacturing companies)
- Non-profit organisations (e.g. charities, advocacy groups, community groups)
- International organisations (e.g. United Nations, World Bank, World Health Organisation)

Q19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? [Strong disagree – Disagree – Neither agree nor disagree – Agree – Strong agree]

- Generally speaking, most people can be trusted

## Section 4

We now have some questions about your experience and thoughts on the Voice referendum, which was held on 14 October 2023.

The following questions are about the time leading up to the Voice Referendum.

Q20. How often did you talk about the Voice referendum with people (e.g. your family, friends, neighbours, co-workers, people you meet online)?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Weekly
- Daily
- Not sure



Q20a. In general, how did you feel about sharing your opinions on the Voice referendum? (*This question only asked if 'Sometimes', 'Weekly' or 'Daily' was chosen at Q20*)

- Uncomfortable
- Neither comfortable or uncomfortable
- Comfortable
- Prefer not to say

Q21. How often did you talk to people with the opposite opinion about the Voice referendum to you?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Weekly
- Daily
- Not sure

Q22. How often did you listen to opinions in the media or online about the Voice referendum?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Weekly
- Daily
- Not sure

Q23. How often did you listen to opinions in the media or online about the Voice referendum that were opposite to your opinion?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Weekly
- Daily
- Not sure

Discussions such as these that happen in the media, online and in private are sometimes referred to as 'public debate'. We have some questions on your opinion of the 'public debate' around the Voice referendum.

Q24. Has the public debate around the Voice referendum affected your satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say



Q24a. How has it affected your satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia? *(This question only asked if 'Yes' was chosen at Q24)*

- Increased satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia
- Decreased satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia

Q25. Has the outcome of Voice Referendum affected your satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia? (The outcome was that the majority of votes were 'no' meaning the referendum did not pass.)

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say

Q25a. How has it affected your satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia? *(This question only asked if 'Yes' was chosen at Q25)*

- Increased satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia.
- Decreased satisfaction with the way democracy works in Australia.

Q26. Has the Voice referendum affected your intentions to participate in political and civic activities (e.g. engage in public discussion and advocate for a certain view)?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say

Q26a. How has the referendum impacted your intentions to engage in future political and civic activities? Please select an option that best represents your feelings. *(This question only asked if 'Yes' was chosen at Q26)*

- I intend to be more engaged in future
- I intend to be less engaged in future
- I may engage more or less depending on the subject matter

## Section 5

We now have some questions about your day to day life.

Q27. In general, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your current day to day life?

- Very dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied or dissatisfied



- Satisfied
- Very satisfied
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say

Q28. In the last 12 months, have you participated in activities hosted by the following groups? [Yes – No – Not sure]

- Local community or neighbourhood organisation
- Church or religious organisation
- Sport or recreation organisation, sport team
- Art, music or educational organisation
- Political party
- Environmental organisation
- Professional association
- Humanitarian or charitable organisation
- Consumer organisation
- Interest Group (e.g. groups for hobbies)
- Other (please specify)

Q29. Overall, how often do you take part in social activities (e.g. spending time with family, seeing friends, participating in community events)?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very often

Q30. Some people say they feel isolated from the people around them while others say they don't. They might feel isolated even though they see family or friends every day. In the last four weeks, how often have you felt isolated from others?

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- A little of the time
- None of the time
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say

Q31. Have you ever experienced discrimination or been discriminated against in Australia?



- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say

## Section 6

Lastly, we will ask a few questions about you.

D1. In which country were you born?

- [Option from drop down list of all countries – Australia at the top and all other countries below]
- Prefer not to say
- Not sure

D2. What is the primary language you use at home?

- English
- First Australian Language
- Arabic
- Cantonese
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hindi
- Indonesian
- Italian
- Mandarin
- Nepali
- Spanish
- Vietnamese
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

D3. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

- Employed permanently (full-time or part-time)
- Employed casually or temporarily (irregular work)
- Self-employed
- Unemployed (looking for work)
- Retired
- Not actively looking for employment (not retired)





- Permanently unable to work
- Prefer not to say

D4. Which of the following best describes your household?

- Person living alone
- Couple without children
- Couple with dependent child(ren)
- Couple with non-dependent child(ren)
- Couple with dependent and non-dependent children
- Single parent with dependent child(ren)
- Single parent with non-dependent child(ren)
- Single parent with dependent and non-dependent children
- Non-related adults sharing house/ apartment / flat
- Person living in aged care or disability care facility
- Other household type (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

D5. Which of the following best describes your housing situation?

- Rent the property where you live
- Live rent free in a property you don't own
- Currently in insecure housing (e.g. couch surfing, sleeping rough, accessing short term emergency accommodation)
- Own the property where you live (outright)
- Own the property where you live (with a mortgage)
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to say

D6. What is the total of all personal income you usually receive each year, before tax? Do not include the income of other people in your household.

- Negative income
- \$0 or nil income
- \$1 - \$7,799 (\$1-\$149 per week)
- \$7,800 - \$15,599 (\$150-\$299 per week)
- \$15,600 - \$20,799 (\$300-\$399 per week)
- \$20,800 - \$25,999 (\$400-\$499 per week)
- \$26,000 - \$33,799 (\$500-\$649 per week)
- \$33,800 - \$41,599 (\$650-\$799 per week)
- \$41,600 - \$51,999 (\$800-\$999 per week)
- \$52,000 - \$64,999 (\$1,000-\$1,249 per week)



- \$65,000 - \$77,999 (\$1,250-\$1,499 per week)
- \$78,000 - \$90,999 (\$1,500-\$1,749 per week)
- \$91,000 - \$103,999 (\$1,750-\$1,999 per week)
- \$104,000 - \$155,999 (\$2,000-\$2,999 per week)
- \$156,000 or more (\$3,000 or more per week)
- Prefer not to say

D7. What is the highest year of primary or secondary school you have completed?

- Year 12 or equivalent
- Year 11 or equivalent
- Year 10 or equivalent
- Year 9 or equivalent
- Year 8 or below
- Prefer not to say

D7a. What is the highest qualification you have completed?

- Certificate I or II
- Certificate III or IV
- Advanced Diploma or Diploma
- Bachelor (Undergraduate) Degree
- Graduate Diploma or Graduate Certificate
- Postgraduate Degree
- Did not complete a qualification
- Prefer not to say

D8. What is your religion?

- No religion
- Catholic
- Anglican (Church of England)
- Uniting Church
- Islam
- Buddhism
- Presbyterian
- Hinduism
- Greek Orthodox
- Baptist
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to say



D9. Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

- No
- Yes, Aboriginal
- Yes, Torres Strait Islander
- Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Prefer not to say

You've nearly finished your survey! Before you go, we have one final question about your experiences. Below is a list of significant life events.

D10. Which of the following have you experienced in the last 12 months? (Choose as many as apply)

- Finished secondary school (completed year 12)
- Left secondary school (before completing year 12)
- Entered or continued university or vocational training (including apprenticeships and internships)
- Finished university or vocational training course (including apprenticeships and internships)
- Left university or vocational training before completing my course (including apprenticeships and internships)
- Started a new job/returned to work
- Became or are currently unemployed
- Retired or voluntarily stopped work
- Started or ended my own business
- Experienced hardship as a result of a natural disaster (e.g. damage to personal property from a bushfire, hailstorm or flood).
- Experienced financial hardship (e.g. identified as a low income earner, declared bankruptcy)
- Paid a fine or debt to the Australian government
- Changed usual place of residence in Australia (e.g. moved house)
- Travelled overseas
- Moved back to Australia after living overseas (and held citizenship, a visa or residency permit to stay in another country)
- Applied for, or gained Australian citizenship or permanent residency
- Applied for, renewed or gained an Australian passport
- Had a baby, fostered or adopted a child/children
- Placed a child/children into foster care or for adoption
- Got married/remarried/entered a de facto relationship
- Got divorced, or separated from married or de-facto partner
- Experienced a death in the family
- Became or was the primary carer for 1 or more children under the age of 6
- Stopped being a primary carer for 1 or more children under the age of 6
- Became or was a single parent

## CLASSIFICATION



- Became or was responsible for an unwell or injured person
- Became or was dependent on care inside the home
- Became or was dependent on care outside the home
- Have or had a disability
- Experienced an injury, illness, or chronic condition (including COVID-19)
- Have or had a mental health condition (including depression or anxiety)
- Applied for or renewed a licence, permit or card (e.g. Medicare card, fishing licence)
- None of the above