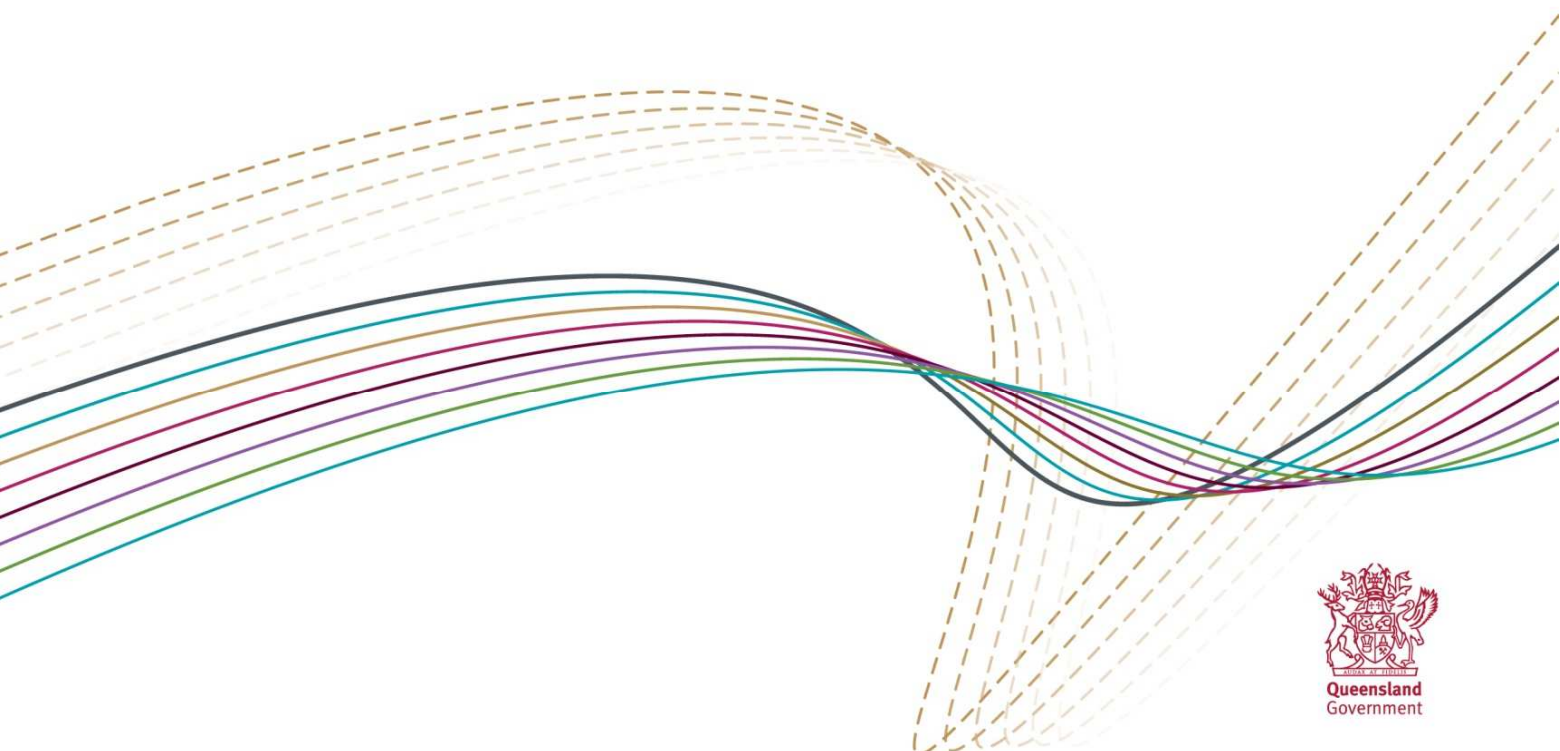


Queensland Social Survey 2021

Social Isolation Survey Report

prepared for

Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
August 2021



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Abbreviations

The following abbreviations and symbols are used in this report:

%	per cent
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CATI	Computer-assisted telephone interviewing
DCHDE	Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
DFV	domestic and family violence
DPC	Department of the Premier and Cabinet
N	population size
n	sample size
Q	question
QGSO	Queensland Government Statistician's Office
QSS	Queensland Social Survey
SA4	Statistical area level 4 (as classified by the Australian Statistical Geography Standard)
SI	social inclusion



Terms

The following terms are used in this report:

Collapsed categories	For tables in this report, 'collapsed categories' refers to question categories that have been combined to aid interpretation or analysis. For example, 'strongly agree' and 'agree' can be collapsed into 'agree or strongly agree'.
Confidence intervals	The degree of imprecision is represented as a confidence interval (the difference between upper and lower confidence limits), which gives a range of values for the population estimates (e.g. from 70% to 80%) rather than a single value or point estimate (e.g. 75%). Typically, wider confidence intervals indicate less precise estimates.
Estimated adult Queensland resident population	Unless otherwise specified, all references refer to the total estimated population of adults in Queensland as at June 2019 (N = 3,917,777), according to <i>ABS 3235.0 Regional Population by Age and Sex, 2019</i> .
Multi-response	A question where respondents could select more than one response for specific categories.
Regions	Derived from the survey's scoping questions, where respondents were first asked to confirm that they were a Queensland resident, then asked to provide their postcode and/or suburb. These responses were geocoded into two regions based on Queensland SA4s (South East Queensland and Rest of Queensland) and then weighted to the total estimated population of adult residents in Queensland, as at June 2019.
Respondents	Refers to the 1,219 Queensland residents who completed the Queensland Social Survey between 24 May and 16 June 2021. Also referred to as 'in-scope responding'.
Uncollapsed categories	For tables in this report, 'uncollapsed categories' refers to question categories that have not been combined with other categories and are reported as per the questionnaire.
Weighted	Responses to this survey have been weighted to a total number of 3,917,777 adults in Queensland. The auxiliary variables used for weighting were age and gender by region.

Acknowledgement

Reports produced by QGSO reflect information provided freely by individuals and businesses. The continued cooperation of respondents is appreciated and enables QGSO to collect and report statistics. Information received by QGSO is treated in strict confidence as required by the Statistical Returns Act.



1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Background and methodology

The Queensland Social Survey 2021 was conducted by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office (QGSO) on behalf of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) and the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy (DCHDE), between 24 May and 16 June 2021. The survey was first undertaken in 2017 and was subsequently run in 2018, 2019 and 2020, on behalf of DPC and the former Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (DCDSS).

The objective of the social isolation (SI) survey questions was to capture information about social groups and connections with neighbours, friends and family. The social isolation questions replaced the social cohesion questions from previous collections.

The survey was administered using computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) and obtained 1,219 completed surveys and an overall response rate of 28.4%. All results presented have been weighted to the total population of Queensland (estimated to be 3,917,777 as at June 2019).

1.2 Key results

Communicating with people you know, but don't live with

In the last three months, 71.6% of the estimated adult Queensland resident population had *communicated at least once a day* with people they know but don't live with, in person, by phone or online.

One in three Queensland residents (29.9%) indicated they would like to *communicate with people they know more often* than they currently do.

Of the estimated adult Queensland resident population, 58.3% indicated they would like to communicate more often with friends, 51.3% with family and 8.9% with neighbours.

The main barriers for Queensland residents communicating more often with people they know are lack of time (69.6%) and distance or a different time zone (23.0%).

Involvement in social groups

Of the estimated adult Queensland resident population, in the last three months:

- 37.0% had *investigated the range of groups or activities* provided in their city or local community. This included a range of activities provided by sporting clubs, arts groups, business groups (e.g. Lions, Rotary), festivals and Neighbourhood and Community Centres.
- 44.7% had been *actively involved in any groups or activities* in their city or local community.
- the main reasons for *becoming actively involved in groups or activities* were to meet new people and expand their social network (31.6%), for fun and personal enjoyment (30.4%) and for their child's/children's involvement in groups or activities (18.1%).
- the main reasons for *not becoming actively involved in groups or activities* were lack of time because of family and work commitments (61.6%), not interested or no need (21.5%) and health reasons (10.6%).

SOCIAL ISOLATION: KEY RESULTS

This page is a snapshot of the social isolation (SI) results from the **Queensland Social Survey 2021**, which obtained the responses of 1,219 Queensland residents. Percentages are based on **weighted estimates of the total adult resident population of Queensland (N = 3,917,777)**. Icons have been used for illustrative purposes.



Communicating with people you know, but don't live with

Frequency of communication

71.6% of residents in the last three months, **communicated at least once a day** with people they know but don't live with, either in person, by phone or online



1 in 3 residents would like to **communicate with people they know but don't live with more often** than they currently do



Desire to communicate more often

58.3% with friends
51.3% with family
8.9% with neighbours



Main barriers to communicating more often

69.6% lack of time
23.0% distance or different time zone



Involvement in social groups

Awareness of groups or activities

37.0% of residents in the last three months, **investigated the range of groups or activities** provided in their city or local community



Recent involvement in groups or activities

44.7% of residents in the last three months, had been **actively involved in any groups of activities** in their city or local community



Main reasons residents became actively involved in groups or activities in the last three months

31.6% to *meet new people* and expand their social network



30.4% for *fun and personal enjoyment*



18.1% *child's/children's involvement* in groups or activities



Main reasons residents were not actively involved in groups or activities in the last three months

61.6% lack of time because of *family and work commitments*



21.5% *not interested and no need*



10.6% *health reasons*



2 SURVEY OVERVIEW

This survey report complements the Social Isolation Output Tables for the **Queensland Social Survey 2021**. It contains key information relating to survey design, methods and administration of the survey, as well as key results for the survey's social isolation component.

2.1 Background

The Queensland Social Survey (QSS) 2021 was conducted by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office (QGSO) on behalf of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) and the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy (DCHDE), between 24 May and 16 June 2021.

QSS is an omnibus survey that collects information on important societal issues affecting Queensland and has been undertaken by QGSO for five consecutive years (starting in 2017).

The objective of the social isolation (SI) survey questions was to capture information about Queenslanders' social groups and connections with neighbours, friends and family members who don't live with them.

2.2 Survey design

The in-scope population for QSS 2021 was all adults (aged 18 years or older) who were usual residents of Queensland. An estimated 3,917,777 adults were residing in Queensland as at June 2019.

A total 4,289 Queensland households were randomly selected for the survey to achieve the desired number of completed interviews. The survey contact list was constructed from databases that are kept for official statistical purposes under the authority of the *Statistical Returns Act 1896*.

One adult was randomly selected from each household on this contact list and asked to complete the questionnaire.

2.3 Questionnaire design

The SI questions were developed through collaboration between the DCHDE and QGSO. Demographic questions were added in accordance with research and policy objectives, and technical advice was offered by specialists in QGSO.

The questionnaire was designed to capture information about respondent's communication with people they know but don't live with, awareness and involvement in social groups or activities, as well as a variety of demographic information.

The social isolation questions were new to the survey in 2021.

The questionnaire was piloted with 187 respondents to test whether the questions were clear and sequenced appropriately. Data from the pilot were not combined with data collected in the main survey.

See **Appendix A** for a copy of the 2021 questionnaire.

2.4 Survey administration and response rate

The survey, administered using computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI), obtained a total of 1,219 completed surveys, giving an overall response rate of 28.4% (see **Table 1**).

Table 1 Survey methodology and operations summary

Survey design	
In-scope population	Adults (aged 18 years or older) who reside in Queensland
Sample size	4,289
Data collection	
Mode	Computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI)
Timing	24 May – 16 June 2021
In-scope completed surveys	1,219
Response rate	28.4%
Cooperation rate	59.1%

See **Appendix B** for more details about the survey's methods and operations.



3 SURVEY RESULTS

3.1 Presentation

This section of the report summarises key survey responses based on characteristics of Queenslanders who completed the survey in 2021. Survey results are presented as estimates calculated from the responding survey sample of 1,219 and weighted to the total estimated adult population of 3,917,777 Queensland residents.

3.2 Interpretation

There are some important issues to consider when interpreting the statistics and evaluating the findings in this report.

Firstly, the COVID-19 pandemic likely impacted some survey responses and should be taken into account when assessing the results. It is also possible that results from this year may not be directly comparable to future iterations of the survey.

Secondly, all demographics are self-reported and, as such, rely on the respondent's ability and willingness to select the appropriate category. Demographic estimates produced in the survey are not comparable with those produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) due to differences in data collection and estimation methodology.

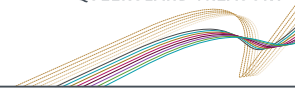
Thirdly, responses provided by the respondent may not be accurate and could be biased by recall error or social desirability bias (a type of non-sampling error where the respondent perceives that the response given in a certain way is most desirable to the person or body collecting the information). As attitudes and behaviours tend to change over time, the results presented in this report are designed to be representative of the population at the time of data collection.

Caution should be exercised when extrapolating results to the entire adult resident population of Queensland. Estimated percentages and counts may not be representative of the population if the characteristic being investigated is structured by a particular attribute that may affect the likelihood of a person responding (known as non-response bias).

Population totals and percentages have been estimated from the sample using methods aimed at minimising bias related to the survey contact list, non-response and refusals. While the survey has been designed to maximise the representativeness of the results, it is not possible to perfectly represent the entire population. As a result, estimates of population characteristics have an associated level of imprecision (often presented as confidence intervals).

Confidence intervals are available in the output tables that complement this report and have not been repeated here.

Strategies to minimise the effects of common sources of sampling and non-sampling error can be found at [Survey methods](#). See **Appendix C** for strategies frequently used by QGSO.



3.3 Communicating with people you know, but don't live with

3.3.1 Frequency of communication

All respondents were asked: "In the last three months, how often did you communicate with people you know, but don't live with. This could be in person, by phone or online. Would you say..." (Q1).

In the last three months, 71.6% of the estimated adult Queensland resident population had communicated at least once a day with people they know but don't live with, in person, by phone or online, and a further 22.6% had communicated at least once a week. Only 0.7% had communicated less than once a month with people they know but don't live with (see **Table 2**).

Table 2 Frequency of communication in the last three months with people you know, but don't live with

	Estimate (per cent)
At least once a day	71.6%
At least once a week	22.6%
At least once a fortnight	2.5%
At least once a month	2.6%
Less than once a month	0.7%
Don't know	0.0%
Refused	0.0%
Total	100.0%

Base: All respondents (n = 1,219)

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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3.3.2 Desire to communicate more often

All respondents were asked: "Would you like to communicate with these people more often than you currently do?" (Q2a).

Approximately one-third (29.9%) of the estimated adult Queensland resident population said they would like to communicate with people they know but don't live with more often than they currently do. Approximately two-thirds (69.8%) did not indicate

that they wanted to communicate more often with these people (see **Table 3**).

Table 3 Desire to communicate more often with people you know, but don't live with

	Estimate (per cent)
Yes	29.9%
No	69.8%
Don't know	0.3%
Refused	0.0%
Total	100.0%

Base: All respondents (n = 1,219)

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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Respondents who wanted to communicate more often were asked: "Who would you like to communicate more often with?" (Q2b). Multiple responses were allowed.

From the multiple response options, an estimated 58.3% indicated they would like to communicate more often with friends, 51.3% with family and 8.9% with neighbours (see **Table 4**).

Table 4 People you desire to communicate more often with (multi-response)

	Estimate (per cent)
Friends	58.3%
Family	51.3%
Neighbours	8.9%
People or groups in my local community	4.3%
Workmates	3.4%
Other	0.8%
Don't know	0.6%
Refused	0.1%

Base: Respondents who indicated they would like to communicate more often with people they know but don't live with (n = 319)

Note: Multiple responses were allowed

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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Respondents who wanted to communicate more often with people they know but don't live with were asked: "What are the main barriers to you communicating more often with them?" (Q2c). Multiple responses were allowed.

From the multiple response options, the main barriers to communicating more often were lack of time (69.6%), or distance or a being in a different time zone (23.0%) (see **Table 5**).

Table 5 Main barriers to communicating more often with people (multi-response)

	Estimate (per cent)
Lack of time	69.6%
Distance/different time zone	23.0%
COVID-19	5.8%
Health reasons	5.2%
Technology reasons	2.1%
Transport reasons	2.0%
Lack of motivation	1.8%
Financial reasons	1.1%
No desire to communicate more	1.1%
Other	3.1%
No barriers	2.6%
Don't know	0.3%
Refused	0.1%

Base: Respondents who indicated they would like to communicate more often with people they know but don't live with (n = 319)

Note: Multiple responses were allowed

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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3.4 Involvement in social groups

3.4.1 Awareness of groups or activities in city or local community

All respondents were asked: "In your city or local community there may be a range of activities provided by sporting clubs, arts groups, business groups (e.g. Lions, Rotary), festivals and Neighbourhood and Community Centres. In the last three months, have you investigated the range of groups or activities provided in your city or local community?" (Q3).

In the last three months, approximately one-third (37.0%) of the estimated adult Queensland resident population had investigated the range of groups or activities provided in their city or local community (see **Table 6**).

Table 6 Awareness of groups or activities in last three months

	Estimate (per cent)
Yes	37.0%
No	62.9%
Don't know	0.0%
Refused	0.1%
Total	100.0%

Base: All respondents (n = 1,219)

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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3.4.2 Recent involvement in groups or activities

All respondents were asked: "In the last three months, have you been actively involved in any groups or activities in your city or local community?" (Q4a).

In the last three months, 44.7% of the estimated adult Queensland resident population had been actively involved in any groups or activities in their city or local community (see **Table 7**).

Table 7 Involvement in groups or activities in last three months

	Estimate (per cent)
Yes	44.7%
No	55.3%
Don't know	0.0%
Refused	0.0%
Total	100.0%

Base: All respondents (n = 1,219)

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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3.4.3 Reasons for involvement

Respondents who were actively involved in community groups or activities were asked: "What were the main reasons that you became involved?" (Q4c). Multiple responses were allowed.

Of the multiple response options, the main reasons that Queensland residents became actively involved in groups or activities in the last three months were to meet new people and expand their social network (31.6%), for fun and personal enjoyment (30.4%) and for their child's/children's involvement in groups or activities (18.1%) (see **Table 8**).

Table 8 Reasons for becoming actively involved in groups or activities (multi-response)

	Estimate (per cent)
To meet new people/expand my social network	31.6%
For fun/my personal enjoyment	30.4%
My child's/children's involvement in groups or activities	18.1%
For my health/fitness	16.7%
To contribute/volunteer my skills and time	16.4%
To fill in time	4.5%
To learn a new skill/take up a new hobby	4.0%
Someone invited me	2.6%
Other	4.4%
Don't know	0.3%
Refused	0.0%

Base: Respondents who were actively involved in city or local community groups or activities in the last three months (n = 567)

Note: Multiple responses were allowed

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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3.4.4 Reasons for not becoming involved

Respondents who had not been actively involved in community groups or activities were asked: "What stopped you from being actively involved?" (Q4b). Multiple responses were allowed.

Of the multiple response options, the main reasons that stopped Queensland residents from being actively involved in groups or activities in the last three months were lack of time because of family and work commitments (61.6%), not interested or no need (21.5%) and health reasons (10.6%) (see **Table 9**).

Table 9 Reasons for not becoming involved in groups or activities (multi-response)

	Estimate (per cent)
Lack of time (family/work commitments)	61.6%
Not interested/no need	21.5%
Health reasons	10.6%
COVID-19	4.3%
No groups or activities I like	2.3%
Financial reasons/cost	1.7%
No childcare available	1.0%
No one to go with	0.3%
Potential for conflict/don't like others who attend	0.9%
Lack of technology or connectivity for online options	0.5%
Other	4.1%
Don't know	0.8%
Refused	0.0%

Base: Respondents who had not been actively involved in city or local community groups or activities in the last three months (n = 652)

Note: Multiple responses were allowed

Source: Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2021

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APPENDICES

Appendix A Questionnaire

Department of the Premier and Cabinet Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy Queensland Social Survey 2021

Good morning/afternoon/evening, my name is ____ and I work for the Queensland Government Statistician's Office. The Queensland Government is conducting a survey to gauge the community's views about a range of social issues including relationships, social connections and attitudes towards violence.

Your responses are strictly confidential and are collected under the Queensland Government Statistical Returns Act. The information you provide will only be used for research purposes.

Some calls are monitored by my supervisor for training and quality purposes.

You may have received a letter from us advising you of the survey.

Scoping Questions

Can I just check – is Queensland your usual place of residence?

(Yes.....	1	<i>Continue</i>
No	2	<i>End survey</i>
Refused)	99	<i>End survey</i>

So we can establish the boundaries of our study, can you give me your postcode?

((Record postcode)	1
Don't know	9998
Refused)	9999

If postcode = 9998, 9999 or differs from frame go to "What is your suburb?"

Else go to "Could you please tell me the number of people aged 18 years or over who usually live in this household?"

What is your suburb?

((Record suburb).....	1
Don't know	98
Refused)	99



To ensure that we obtain a representative sample of all people aged 18 years or over, we need to randomly select a person from your household to complete the survey. Could you please tell me the number of people aged 18 years or over who usually live in this household?

- (Respondent provides information..... *A member of the household is randomly selected – Continue*
- Refused) 99 *End survey*

Could I please speak to that person?

- (Yes – Speaking to selected person..... 1 *Start interview*
- Yes – Contact will go and get selected person 2 *Reintroduce to target*
- Selected person (temporarily) unavailable 3 *Make appointment for call back*
- Contact tries to refuse on behalf of selected person 4 *Attempt to dissuade*
- Refused) 99 *End survey*

[Interviewer instruction: if the respondent indicates that they would prefer to speak to interviewer of the same sex, offer a callback at a suitable time]

Intro1. Questions about social connection

Read “For the first section of the survey we’ll be asking questions about your social groups and connections.

For the first few questions, please answer about people you know, but don’t live with. This includes neighbours, friends, and family members who don’t live with you.”

Q.1 In the last three months, how often did you communicate with people you know, but don’t live with. This could be in person, by phone or online. Would you say:

(Interviewer prompts:

‘People you know, but don’t live with’ includes neighbours, friends and family members who don’t live with you.

‘In-person’ includes planned events or casual face-to-face contact with others in groups or one-on-one.

‘Phone’ includes phone calls, video calls or text messages made by either mobile or landline

‘Online’ includes instant messages, emails or other forms of communication via social media, internet apps, online gaming or social group forums)

- At least once a day 1
- At least once a week..... 2
- At least once a fortnight 3
- At least once a month 4
- Less than once a month 5
- (Don’t know 98
- Refused) 99



Q.2a Would you like to communicate with these people more often than you currently do?

(Yes.....	1
No	2
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

If Q2a = 1 go to Q2b

Else go to Q3

Q.2b Who would you like to communicate more often with?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1- 6 – DON'T READ OUT]

(Family	1
Friends.....	2
Workmates	3
Neighbours	4
People or groups in my local community	5
Other (please specify)	6
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

Q.2c What are the main barriers to you communicating more often with them?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-10 – DON'T READ OUT]

(Lack of time	1
COVID-19	2
Distance / Different time zones	3
Lack of motivation	4
Technology reasons	5
Health reasons	6
Transport reasons	7
Financial reasons	8
They don't want to communicate more	9
Other (please specify)	10
No barriers	11
Don't know	98
Refused)	99



Q.3 In your city or local community there may be a range of activities provided by sporting clubs, arts groups, business groups (e.g. Lions, Rotary), festivals and Neighbourhood and Community Centres.

In the last three months, have you investigated the range of groups or activities provided in your city or local community?

(Interviewer prompt:

- *'local community' can mean the neighbourhood, suburb, or town you live in)*

(Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

Q.4a In the last three months, have you been actively involved in any groups or activities in your city or local community?

(Interviewer prompt:

- *'actively involved' means taking part in organised activities individually or as part of a group)*

(Yes.....	1
No	2
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

If Q4a = 2 go to Q4b

If Q4a = 1 go to Q4c

Else go to Intro2

Q.4b What stopped you from being actively involved?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-12 – DON'T READ OUT]

(Not interested / No need	1
COVID-19	2
Lack of time (family/work commitments)	3
Health reasons	4
Financial reasons / Cost	5
No groups or activities I like	6
No childcare available	7
Transport reasons.....	8
No one to go with	9
Potential for conflict / don't like others who attend	10
Lack of technology or connectivity for online options	11
Other (please specify)	12
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

Go to Intro2



Q.4c What were the main reasons that you became involved?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1- 9 – DON'T READ OUT]

(To meet new people / expand my social network	1
For fun / my personal enjoyment	2
My child's/children's involvement in groups or activities	3
To fill in time	4
To contribute / volunteer my skills and time	5
Someone invited me	6
To learn a new skill / take up a new hobby	7
For my health / fitness	8
Other (please specify)	9
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

Intro2. Domestic and family violence questions

Read "The following questions are about your attitude towards domestic and family violence."

(Interviewer prompt: 'Domestic and family violence' is perpetrated in the home or among family members)

Q.8a If one partner in a domestic relationship controls or tries to **control the other partner by preventing them from seeing family and friends**, is this a form of domestic and family violence?

Yes, always.....	1
Yes, usually	2
Yes, sometimes	3
No	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99

Q.9 And how serious is this?

Very serious.....	1
Quite serious.....	2
Not that serious.....	3
Not serious at all	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99



Q.12 If one partner in a domestic relationship **repeatedly criticises** the other partner to make them feel bad or useless, is this a form of domestic and family violence?

Yes, always.....	1
Yes, usually	2
Yes, sometimes	3
No	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99

Q.13 And how serious is this?

Very serious.....	1
Quite serious.....	2
Not that serious.....	3
Not serious at all.....	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99

Q.12a If one partner in a domestic relationship **threatens to share intimate, nude or sexual images of the other partner without their permission**, is this a form of domestic and family violence?

Yes, always.....	1
Yes, usually	2
Yes, sometimes	3
No	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99

Q.13a And how serious is this?

Very serious.....	1
Quite serious.....	2
Not that serious.....	3
Not serious at all.....	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99



Q.14 Excluding any situation involving addictions such as gambling, alcohol, drugs, etc., if one partner in a domestic relationship tries to **control the other partner by denying them access to money**, is this a form of domestic and family violence?

Yes, always.....	1
Yes, usually	2
Yes, sometimes	3
No	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99

Q.15 And how serious is this?

Very serious.....	1
Quite serious.....	2
Not that serious.....	3
Not serious at all.....	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99

Q.16 If one partner in a domestic relationship **harasses** the other partner via repeated phone or electronic means such as email, text message or social media, is this a form of domestic and family violence?

Yes, always.....	1
Yes, usually	2
Yes, sometimes	3
No	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99

Q.17 And how serious is this?

Very serious.....	1
Quite serious.....	2
Not that serious.....	3
Not serious at all.....	4
(Don't know.....	98
Refused)	99



Q.18 How would you react if you saw or were aware of **physical** domestic and family violence, involving **your neighbours**?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-5 – DON'T READ OUT]

(I would try to stop it.....	1
I wouldn't want to get involved due to fear	2
I would call the police.....	3
I would speak to the victim or perpetrator about it later.....	4
Other (please specify).....	5
I wouldn't do anything	6
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

Q.19 How would you react if you saw or were aware of **non-physical** domestic and family violence, involving **your neighbours**?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-5 – DON'T READ OUT]

(I would try to stop it.....	1
I wouldn't want to get involved due to fear	2
I would call the police.....	3
I would speak to the victim or perpetrator about it later.....	4
Other (please specify).....	5
I wouldn't do anything	6
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

If Q19 = 6 go to Q19b

Else go to Q20a

Q.19b Why do you think you wouldn't do anything?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-6 – DON'T READ OUT]

(Concerns for safety (personal, family or household).....	1
It could make things worse/more dangerous for victim	2
Unsure of what to do / Not confident / Not comfortable.....	3
Not my responsibility / Private matter / Up to victim	4
No need to intervene	5
Other (please specify).....	6
Don't know	98
Refused)	99



Q.20a In the last 12 months, have you seen or are you aware of any domestic and family violence involving a **family member or close friend**?

(Yes.....	1
No	2
Don't know	98
Refused)	99

If Q20a = 1 go to Q20b

Else go to Q21a

Q.20b How did you respond when you saw or became aware of this?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-4 – DON'T READ OUT]

(I tried to stop it	1
I called the police	2
I spoke to the victim or perpetrator about it later	3
Other (please specify).....	4
I didn't do anything.....	5
Refused)	99

Q.21a In the last 12 months, have you seen or are you aware of any domestic and family violence involving **your neighbours**?

(Yes.....	1
No	2
Don't know	98
(Refused)	99

If Q21a = 1 go to Q21b

Else go to Q22a



Q.21b How did you respond when you saw or became aware of this?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-4 – DON'T READ OUT]

(I tried to stop it.....	1
I called the police.....	2
I spoke to the victim or perpetrator about it later.....	3
Other (please specify).....	4
I didn't do anything.....	5
Refused).....	99

Q.22a In the last 12 months, have you seen or are you aware of any domestic and family violence involving **people you don't know well**. For example, people you met at your workplace, a community group or a sports club?

(Yes.....	1
No.....	2
Don't know.....	98
Refused).....	99

If Q22a = 1 go to Q22b

Else go to Q23

Q.22b How did you respond when you saw or became aware of this?

[Interviewer instruction: allow more than one selection for responses 1-5 – DON'T READ OUT]

(I tried to stop it.....	1
I called the police.....	2
I spoke to the victim or perpetrator about it later.....	3
I spoke to someone in my workplace/community group/club etc.....	4
Other (please specify).....	5
I didn't do anything.....	6
Refused).....	99



Q.23 The statements I'm about to read describe specific attitudes. For each statement please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree or strongly disagree:

(Interviewer prompt:

- Q23d, e, f and g: there are no right or wrong answers, only opinions
- Q23d is asking if the respondent feels safe (not the interviewer)
- Q23f – 'Gender inequality' is the opposite of gender equality and can be defined as: unequal treatment or perceptions of individuals based on their gender.)

	1. Strongly agree	2. Agree	3. Neither agree nor disagree	4. Disagree	5. Strongly disagree	98. (Don't know	99. Refused)
d) In general, I feel safe from domestic and family violence							
e) When one partner in a domestic relationship believes themselves to be superior to their partner because of their gender, domestic and family violence is more likely to occur.							
f) Reducing gender <u>inequality</u> will help to reduce domestic and family violence in Australia.							
g) Teaching children about respectful attitudes and behaviours in relationships will help reduce domestic and family violence in the future.							

Q.24a Are you involved in any domestic and family violence initiatives (e.g. awareness raising, advocacy, fundraising, volunteering etc.) in your community?

(Interviewer prompt:

- 'community' can mean the neighbourhood, suburb, or town you live in)

(Yes..... 1
 No 2
 Refused) 99



Q.24c Now to a question about employment. Are you currently...

[Interviewer instruction: If respondent says Volunteer Work, Studying/Training etc. ask "Are you LOOKING for paid work?"]

(Interviewer prompt: 'full-time' is 35 hours or more a week and 'part-time' is less than 35 hours a week in all jobs)

In paid work full-time.....	1
In paid work part-time	2
Self-employed.....	3
Unemployed and seeking paid work.....	4
Not seeking paid work	5
Retired	6
(Other (please specify)	7
Refused)	99

If Q24c < 4 go to Q25a

Else go to Intro3

Q.25a Has your workplace engaged in any domestic and family violence initiatives in the last 12 months? (e.g. employee support programs, leadership, awareness raising, fundraising etc.)

(Yes.....	1
No	2
Refused)	99

Intro3. Demographic questions

Read "The following questions are for statistical purposes only."

Q.26 As this interview is being conducted over the phone, can you please tell me your gender?

(Male	1
Female.....	2
Other	3
Refused)	99

Q.27a Can I please have your date of birth?

[Interviewer instruction: If respondent is hesitant about answering this sort of question say: "Date of birth is asked as most people find it easier to remember than their age".

Type in respondent's date of birth in this format, dd/mm/yyyy]

(<i>[Record date of birth]</i>	1
Refuses/reluctant).....	99



If Q27a = 99 go to Q27b

Else go to Q28

Q.27b Would you mind giving me your age in years?

(<i>Record age in years</i>)	1
Refuses/reluctant).....	99

If Q27b = 99 go to Q27c

Else go to Q28

Q.27c Would you be willing to say which of the following categories your age is in?

18–24	1
25–34	2
35–44	3
45–54	4
55–64	5
65 years or over	6
(Refused)	99

Q.28 What is the highest year level of **school-based education** that you have completed?

[Interviewer instruction: If respondent indicates that they completed secondary education at a TAFE secondary college code as "Senior high school (Year 12)".

If year level is provided, code to the highest COMPLETED option. For example, code "Year 9" to "Primary school".]

Senior high school (Year 12)	1
Junior high school (Year 10).....	2
Primary school	3
Did not complete primary school	4
No schooling	5
(Other (please specify)	6
Refused)	99



Q.29 What is the level of the highest educational qualification that you have completed?

[Interviewer instruction: If respondent reports they have completed a bridging or enabling course, ask if they receive a certificate at the end of the course. If yes, please ask for the level and code accordingly. For example, Certificate IV in University Preparation should be coded to VET Certificate IV. If respondent indicates that they won't receive a certificate or it has no level, such as a Tertiary Preparation Program, code to Other.

Exclude all Statements of attainment, licensing (e.g. forklift license).

Exclude qualifications that have not been completed (e.g. courses that have been deferred or withdrawn from, those currently being studied for).

If respondent indicates their highest education qualification is Primary or High School, code as "No educational qualification completed".

If respondent says "Trade Certificate" ask for the level and code accordingly.]

(Doctoral Degree / PhD	1
Master Degree	2
Graduate Diploma.....	3
Graduate Certificate.....	4
Bachelor (Honours) Degree.....	5
Bachelor Degree	6
Associate Degree	7
Advanced Diploma.....	8
Diploma.....	9
VET Certificate IV	10
VET Certificate III.....	11
VET Certificate II.....	12
VET Certificate I.....	13
VET Certificate – level not known (QGSO use only).....	14
No educational qualification completed	15
Other (please specify).....	16
Refused)	99

Q.31 Do you identify yourself as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

(Yes – Aboriginal	1
Yes – Torres Strait Islander.....	2
Both.....	3
Neither	4
Refused)	99



Q.32a Were you born in Australia?

(Yes – Born in Australia.....	1
No – Born outside of Australia.....	2
Refused)	99

Q.32b Do you speak a language other than English at home?

(No – English only.....	1
Yes.....	2
Refused)	99

Q.33 Do you have a limitation, restriction or impairment, which has lasted or is likely to last for at least 6 months, and restricts your everyday activities?

(Interviewer prompt:

- *'everyday activities' may relate to communication, mobility or self-care)*

(Yes.....	1
No	2
Refused)	99

That concludes the survey.

Your responses are strictly confidential and are collected under the Queensland Government's Statistical Returns Act, which does not allow the unauthorised release of information that identifies you.

Your responses will be combined with those of other participants to compile aggregate information.

If the content of the survey has raised any personal issues you may have in relation to domestic and family violence and you would like to talk, would you like the phone number for DVConnect?

DVConnect Mensline: 1800 600 636

DVConnect Womensline: 1800 811 811

Thank you very much for your assistance.



Appendix B Survey method and operations

Sample design

The QSS sample was designed to provide reliable information on individual and household characteristics at both the whole-of-state and the regional level. To achieve this, survey respondents were selected using a stratified sampling design.¹

Queensland was stratified into the following regions:

- South East Queensland (Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba)
- Rest of Queensland

A quota (i.e. target) of 600 completed interviews was set for the South East Queensland region and 600 interviews for the Rest of Queensland region. The final sample of 4,289 was designed to achieve 1,219 interviews, 609 in the South East Queensland region and 610 in the Rest of Queensland region.

With this stratified sample design, the probability of selecting a household varied across the two regions. For example, households in the Rest of Queensland region had a higher probability of being selected than households in the more populous South East Queensland region. Statistical methods used to analyse the survey data account for these different selection probabilities.

For operational reasons, it is not possible to ensure that the targeted number of respondents is achieved without that total being exceeded. That is why the two regions sum slightly above their target number of completed interviews.

Within each sampled household, one adult was randomly selected for interview to reduce bias in the responding sample.²

Survey response rate

One measure of the quality of response is the response rate, which is the number of completed surveys that can be used in analysis as a percentage of all attempted in-scope sample.

Only 'complete' or 'usable partial complete' interviews with a sufficient number of questions answered were used in analysis.

The estimated overall response rate of 28.4% was derived as follows:

$$\frac{\text{total in-scope responding [1,219]}}{\text{total in-scope responding [1,219] + total in-scope non-responding [3,068]}} \times 100\%$$

Cooperation rate

The cooperation rate indicates the extent to which contacted individuals cooperate with requests to participate in a survey. This can be a function of the interviewer's skills, pre-survey communication effects, sentiment towards the survey topic and motivation of a potential respondent to participate.

The cooperation rate is the number of interviews that can be used in analysis, as a percentage of the number of persons contacted who were capable of participating.

The estimated overall cooperation rate of 59.1% was derived as follows:

$$\frac{\text{total in-scope responding [1,219]}}{\text{total in-scope responding [1,219] + partially completed unusable interviews [45] + refusals [797]}} \times 100\%$$

Survey response and cooperation rates over time

The response and cooperation rates achieved for the QSS over time are shown in **Table B1**.

Table B1 Survey response and cooperation rates, 2017–21

	Response rate	Cooperation rate
2021	28.4%	59.1%
2020	27.6%	61.4%
2019	27.0%	58.8%
2018	29.5%	66.8%
2017	34.0%	68.2%

¹ A simple random sample would not support this type of analysis because the final sample would be concentrated in the South East Queensland region, due to its high population density.

² Without random selection, those interviewed would be limited to whomever was home at the time and skewed towards demographic groups more likely to answer the phone.



Appendix C

Estimation and precision

QGSO surveyed a sample of 1,219 respondents. However, interest lies in the entire population of adults who usually reside in Queensland, estimated to be 3,917,777. Each subset of respondents sharing similar characteristics is assumed to be representative of a segment of the entire population sharing those same characteristics.

For example, responses of 18–25 year old males from the sample may be considered to be representative of all 18–25 year old males in the population, including those who were not invited, or chose not to respond, to the survey. Accordingly, population totals and percentages have been estimated from the achieved sample using methods aimed at minimising bias related to sample design, the survey contact list, non-response and refusals.

Although the survey was designed to maximize the representativeness of the results, it is not possible to be perfectly representative. Estimation of population characteristics from a random sample entails some imprecision as a result of sampling and non-sampling error.

Sampling errors occur because estimates based on information obtained from a sample of persons may differ from statistics that would have been produced if all persons had been included in the survey.

The size of the sampling error is determined by the sampling scheme used, the method used to calculate a value for the estimate, and the size of the sample. Other factors being equal, sampling error may be reduced arbitrarily by increasing the sample size.

Non-sampling errors may occur due to non-response to the survey, inadequacies of the sampling contact list, inaccuracies in reporting by respondents and processing errors.

Strategies designed to minimise non-sampling errors include:

- using a contact list that is as up-to-date and accurate as possible
- testing the questionnaire for ease of understanding and completion
- communicating with households about the survey prior to interviewing
- providing clear interviewer instructions, appropriate training and field supervision
- emphasising the legal provisions for protecting confidentiality under the Statistical Returns Act with respondents.

An additional strategy used by QGSO that may reduce sampling error is calibration to population benchmarks. Calibration is a process that makes use of variables that are collected in the survey and for which population level totals (benchmarks) are known. Where suitable additional information about the population of interest is known, calibration can reduce non-response bias and/or increase precision.

The source of population totals for calibration variables used in this survey is ABS 3235.0, *Regional Population by Age and Sex, Australia, 2019*. These benchmarks are listed in **Table C1**.

QGSO expresses the degree of sampling error associated with an estimate using confidence intervals. A confidence interval has a percentage associated with it called a degree of confidence. Confidence intervals provide a useful way of summarising the sampling error associated with an estimate for a parameter. For the same degree of precision, a wider confidence interval corresponds to a less precise estimate. Most tables in this report include 95% confidence intervals around the point estimates of the percentage of respondents falling in a given response category.

Table C1 Benchmarks used in this survey: Persons (age and sex) by region, 30 June 2019

Region	18–24 years	25–34 years	35–44 years	45–54 years	55–64 years	65 years and over
<i>Males</i>						
South East Queensland	180,736	269,256	242,681	232,176	197,744	260,287
Rest of Queensland	59,217	87,883	82,969	90,318	91,762	120,107
Queensland	239,953	357,139	325,650	322,494	289,506	380,394
<i>Females</i>						
South East Queensland	180,624	277,662	253,104	245,977	212,396	298,564
Rest of Queensland	54,410	89,519	86,281	92,219	90,919	120,966
Queensland	235,034	367,181	339,385	338,196	303,315	419,530

Notes:

- 1 Brisbane includes the SA4s of Brisbane Inner City, Brisbane - North, Brisbane - East, Brisbane - South, Brisbane - West, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Logan - Beaudesert, Moreton Bay - North, Moreton Bay - South, Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba.
- 2 Rest of Queensland includes the SA4s of Cairns, Central Queensland, Darling Downs - Maranoa, Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday, Queensland - Outback, Townsville and Wide Bay.

Source: ABS 3235.0, *Regional Population by Age and Sex, Australia, 2019*

