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INSTITUTE
APPLIED ECONOMIC &
SOCIAL RESEARCH

Research Insights

Taking the pulse of the nation

Australians satisfied with the government's
handling of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

Melbourne Institute's survey of the impact of COVID-19 in Australia

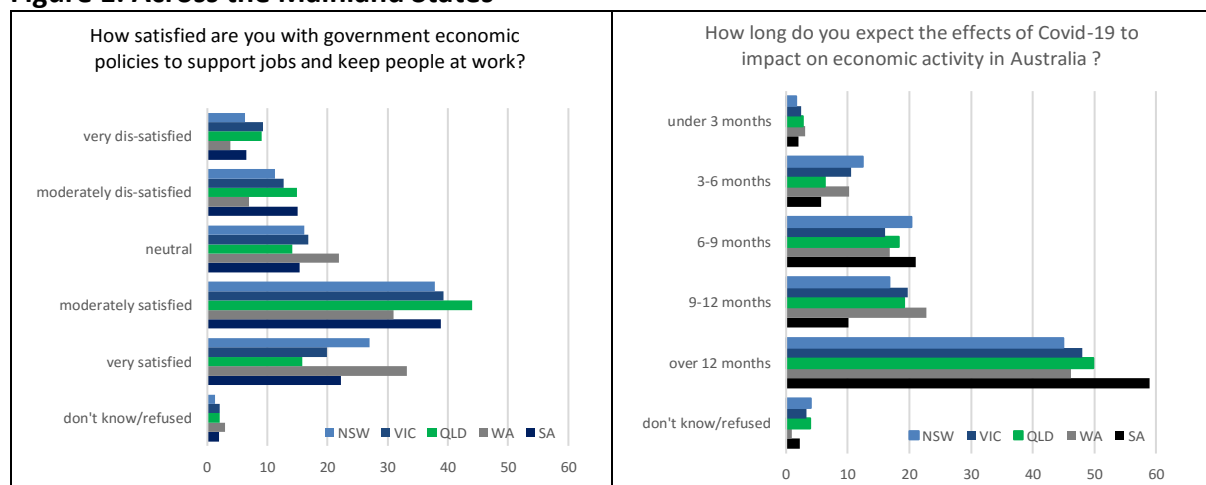
Survey period: 6-11 April 2020*

About 60% of Australians interviewed express satisfaction with government policies to support jobs and keep people at work, with results for NSW and WA above the average.

For survey results, see Figures 1 & 2

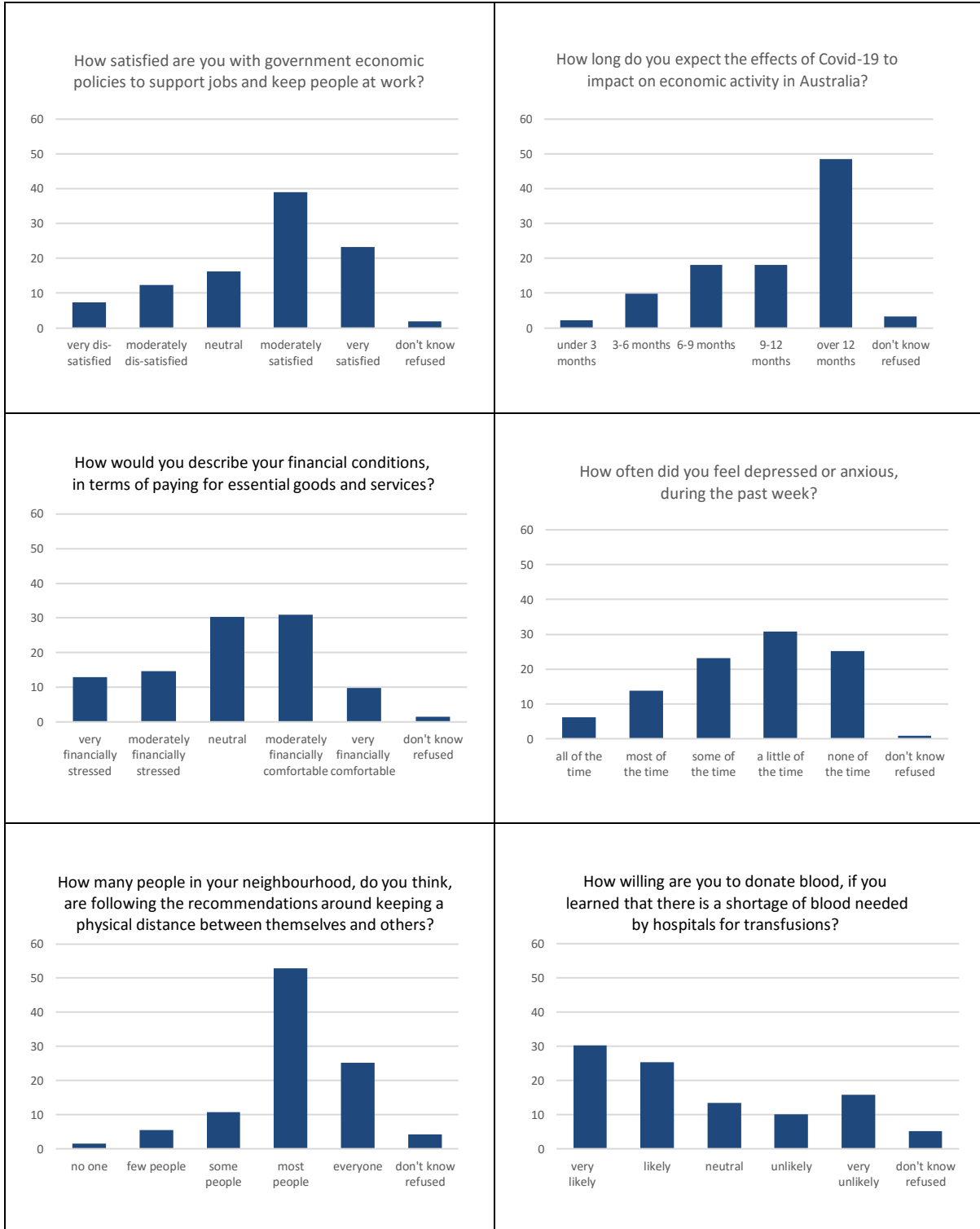
- About 60% of Australians report being moderately to very satisfied with government economic policies to support jobs and keep people at work. Nevertheless more than 80% expect the impact of the coronavirus pandemic to last for more than 6 months.
- Comparing survey results across the mainland States, a greater proportion of respondents in South Australia expect the effect of the coronavirus to impact on economic activity for more than 12 months.
- Under 30% of Australians report being financially stressed (in terms of paying for essential goods and services), while around 40% report being financially comfortable.
- With respect to whether they felt depressed and anxious, last week, around 20% of Australians responded with “most” to “all” the time, but greater than 50% responded with “a little” to “none” of the time.
- When asked about their perceptions of social behaviour, almost 80% of survey respondents think that “most people” to “everyone” in their neighbourhood, practice social distancing. Around 55% indicate pro-social behaviour in that they are on the likely side of donating blood, if they learned that there is a shortage of blood needed by hospitals for transfusions.

Figure 1: Across the Mainland States



* The survey contains responses from 1200 persons, aged 18 years and over. The sample is stratified by gender, age and location to be representative of the Australian population.

Figure 2: How are Australians coping with COVID-19?



Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic & Social Research

The Melbourne Institute applies cutting-edge statistical and econometric methodologies to develop primary and secondary user-ready data sets, and conducts research to inform government, education, business and community organisations. For more information, see: melbourneinstitute.unimelb.edu.au.

About the survey

These results have been drawn from *Taking the Pulse of the Nation* - Melbourne Institute's survey of the impact of COVID-19. The aim of the weekly survey is to track changes in the economic and social wellbeing of Australians living through the effects of the coronavirus pandemic whilst adapting to various changes in Federal and State government policies.

The survey contains responses from 1200 persons, aged 18 years and over. The sample is stratified by gender, age and location to be representative of the Australian population.

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