

Your chance to win

WIN

— 1 of 8 —

\$500

Prizes

To be entered into the draw, complete and return your Self-Completion Questionnaire to your interviewer.

This year our major prize winners will receive 1 of 8 EFTPOS gift cards!

For terms and conditions, you can visit www.livingin australia.org/scqprizedraw

What about privacy?

Your information is protected.

The people involved in the study are committed to ethical research and legally bound to ensure your information is secure. All people involved in the project must sign and comply with the Privacy Act 1988. Your rights are protected by Australian law. Your identifying information is collected for the purpose of the Living in Australia study only. Access to your identifying information is restricted to only those who require it for the purpose of administering or conducting the study.

Thinking of moving?

Your participation is critical to the success of the study, so please let us know if you are moving.

To update your contact details, either:

- Call **1800 656 670** and talk to our friendly support team; or
- Update your address online: <https://livinginaustralia.org/change-your-details>



More information about Living in Australia

If you have any questions, would like more information, or would like to contact your interviewer please freecall **1800 656 670** or visit us online at www.livinginaustralia.org.

This project has human research ethics approval from The University of Melbourne [Project ID 13551]. If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the research team, you should contact the Research Integrity Administrator, Office of Research Ethics and Integrity, University of Melbourne, VIC 3010. Tel: **+61 3 8344 1376** or Email: research-integrity@unimelb.edu.au. All complaints will be treated confidentially. In any correspondence please provide the name of the research team (HILDA Survey) and / or the name or ethics ID number of the research project (ID no. 1955879).

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2022

LIVING
IN AUSTRALIA  **HILDA**

**WEALTH, ASSETS
AND SUPERANNUATION**



Message from Professor Dean Lillard

Dear HILDA Survey participant,

The Household Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey generates data that are useful not only for understanding Australians well-being but also the well-being of a broader international community.

Each year, the HILDA Survey contributes data as part of an international family of ten household-based panel studies called the Cross-National Equivalent Files, with HILDA serving to represent Australian households. Cross-national studies using HILDA data allow researchers and policy makers to identify important similarities and differences in what improves people's lives (or harms them) across countries and over time.

For example, HILDA is part of a large eleven country study funded by the United States National Institutes of Health that will explore the economic and social effects of COVID-mitigation policies and COVID-induced changes to social support policies in Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, South Korea, Switzerland, the UK, and the USA.

By shedding light on the dynamic evolution of how Australians live and work, your ongoing participation and contributions to the HILDA Survey improve policy and knowledge far beyond Australia's shores.

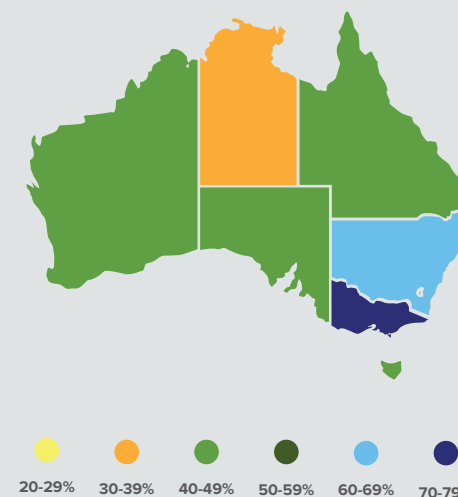


Professor Dean Lillard

The Ohio State University

How COVID-19 changed our lives

Australians who experienced a moderate or greater life change because of COVID-19, by state/territory



In 2020, the Living in Australia (HILDA) Survey asked respondents how the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted various aspects of their lives, including work, health, social life, and finances.

Victorians were the most likely to report being affected: around 80% experienced moderate or greater disruptions. This substantial number reflects the prolonged lockdown that occurred in Victoria in the second half of 2020. Still, two-thirds of residents of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory reported similar disruptions. These three states and territories, making up more than half the Australian population, had a markedly different experience compared to the rest of Australia.

Respondents were also asked whether these changes were positive, negative, or neutral. More than a third reported a negative impact, slightly more women (35.7%) than men (34.9%). The experience of parents with young children—under the age of 15—was different. More fathers than mothers reported their life got worse.

Working from home during the pandemic

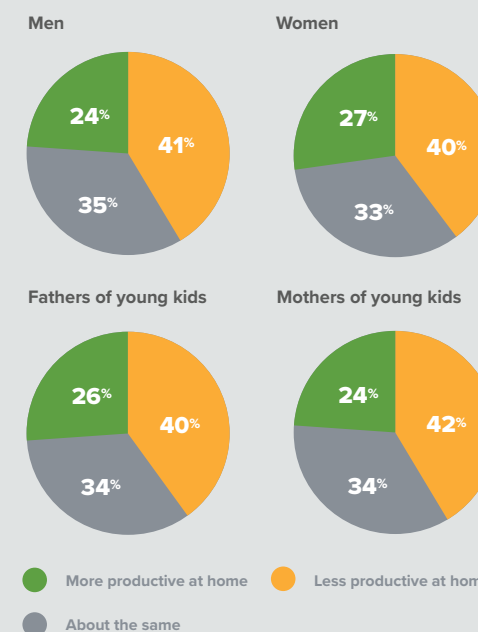
The COVID-19 pandemic changed how many Australians engage with work. Women (36.8%) were more likely than men (31.7%) to start or increase working from home. Only about a quarter of men and women reported being more productive when doing their job at home. Around 40% reported being less productive. Men felt less productive while working at home than women. However, that was not the case for parents of young children. Fathers reported being more productive than mothers.

Of course, these results do not reflect the impact of the coronavirus crisis on mental health which we will see in the years to come.

Started/increased extent working from home

Men **32%** Women **37%**
Fathers of young kids **39%** Mothers of young kids **41%**

How work from home affected ability to do job



COVID-19 impacts *on life & work*



What's new this year?

As we enter the third year of this pandemic, we are learning to live in a new way.

This year, as well as getting a general update from you, the Living in Australia (HILDA) study will focus on wealth, assets and superannuation. Research to date indicates that for some people, these things have changed substantially and for others, not so much.

In our interview with you this year, we will get your update on how these areas have changed for you and your household. In doing so, this study can ensure policy makers are in the best position to make important decisions in coming years towards the social and economic COVID-19 recovery.

Our thanks to you

We greatly appreciate the time you spend with our interviewers each year. As a thank-you for your participation, you will receive a \$40 gift after your interview. You will receive an additional \$20 after you have completed and returned the Self-Completion Questionnaire, either as an online or hardcopy survey.

Why are you so important to this study?

The Living in Australia (HILDA) study is truly one of a kind. It provides regular information on the household, economic and social experiences of the same people living in Australia over time and provides a true, detailed story of Australian life. Strict statistical guidelines that the Living in Australia (HILDA) study adheres to mean that you cannot be replaced or represented by any other person. The ongoing success of this study is dependent upon your participation.

Participating this year

Your interviewer will be in contact soon to arrange a time for your interview.

In the meantime, we encourage you to complete your Self-Completion Questionnaire online either now, or at the time of your interview. In the letter addressed to your household; you can find instructions on how to complete the Self-Completion Questionnaire online including a QR code you can use to access your survey. You will need your unique ID number to complete the survey online.

Offer to all participants

We are pleased to offer you a free Living in Australia report (Issue 5) – a short, stylish summary report of key study findings.

Each year we also produce a very detailed Statistical Report which shows findings from topics like households, the labour market, economics, family formation, and health outcomes. If you would like to receive your own Statistical Report, please ask your interviewer or call **1800 656 670**.

This report is also available for free download from: <https://livinginaustralia.org/#publications>



Meet our Interviewers



Elaine, Vic

I have been working on the HILDA project for around five years now. It is such an enjoyable project to work on. It is great to catch up with my respondents each year and see what changes have happened in their lives. They all make me feel so welcome and it is wonderful that they see the importance of this project.



Rob, WA

I have the most fantastic job in Australia. I have been an interviewer on the HILDA Study for the last 10 years and each year I look forward to meeting hundreds of people in Western Australia who have given their time and commitment to the study.

I believe that my background in Health Service Management has contributed to my ability to communicate with people and gain their confidence. Knowing that all the information will remain strictly confidential allows people to be open about their lives, ensuring that the information I gather is accurate and authentic.

Working on the HILDA project also gives me the flexibility to enjoy my other passion in life, golf (apologies to my partner). I must admit, I believe I have a fantastic life in Australia and feel privileged to be able to work and play in such a beautiful country.



Rinata, Vic

I have been working with the HILDA study since 2010. For the last 10 years I have been conducting telephone interviews and providing support to our field interviewers.

At the start of the year I decided to get out of my comfort zone and try something new and make the switch to in-person interviewing. I wish I had made the change years ago.

I am enjoying being on the road and getting to know participants. It's such a pleasure to meet so many new people and now I have the opportunity to thank them in person for their time and commitment to the study every year. I have already had people tell me they're looking forward to catching up with me next year.

I look forward to continuing interviewing and meeting them all.

Just turned 15?

Young people, such as you, are critical to the future of Australia. By sharing your unique experience you are assisting all young Australians to influence their future.

If you have turned 15 (as at 30th June 2022), we want to talk to you! Whether you are still at school, just started work, or trying to figure out your next steps, you can make sure that young people in Australia are represented in this important study.

For your time, you will receive a \$40 gift in thanks for your participation. In addition, you will receive an extra \$20 gift when you complete a Self-Completion Questionnaire.

