

Australians & Vaccination Immunisation Coalition | November 2022



Background

Methodology & Sample

Findings

- COVID-19 Booster Vaccinations



Further Information



1 Background



1. Background

Questions Asked

The Immunisation Coalition included 5 questions, all related to COVID-19 vaccination.

Several questions were included in the qualitative stage of the research and all were included in the quantitative stages of the research.

COVID-19

- Are you fully vaccinated (had 4 vaccinations, including 2 boosters)? 2.
- If you are not fully vaccinated, do you intend to become fully vaccinated? 3.
- If you do not intend to become fully vaccinated, what is your main reason for this? 4.
- Would you get a 5th COVID-19 vaccination if it is recommended (and becomes the new definition of fully vaccinated)? 5.

Did you know that being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 means having all the your recommended booster shots (currently 4 vaccinations, including 2 boosters)?



Methodology & Sample



Details of the Methodology

The methodology utilised a very large nationwide sample size,

representative of the Australian adult population, with 3 comprehensiv

stages of qualitative & quantitative research.

Stage 1: Focus Groups

- 15 focus groups were conducted, each comprising a representative sample of 10 Australians, each taking on average 93 minutes to complete.
- Detailed qualitative and specific quantitative information obtained from this stage.
- Groups were held in central locations (online in those under lockdown) in these cit - Canberra
- Sydney (2) - Brisbane (2) - Adelaide

- Newcastle
- Bendia

- Melbourne (2) Hobart
- Perth
- Darwin
- Rockhampton Bunbu

Stage 2: Telephone Survey

- 1,508 telephone interviews were conducted, predominately amongst:
 - Older Australians
 - Those with limited vision
- Those who did not have Internet access
- Detailed quantitative information was obtained from this stage.
- Each interview took on average 24 minutes to complete.

Stage 3: Online Survey

- 23,511 interviews were conducted amongst a representative sample of Australian
- Detailed quantitative information was obtained from this stage.
- The survey utilised the latest online technology, where images, audio and video v included for some questions, making the survey interactive and engaging.
- Smartphones, tablet computers and PC's were used to undertake the survey.
- The survey took on average 25 minutes to complete.

Ve		 Sample Very large nationwide sample size, involving: 169 focus group participants 25,019 telephone and online survey participants Representative of the Australian adult population, a all States, Territories, metropolitan, regional & rural areas.
0-12		Comprehensive
ities: igo ury	1 2 3	 3-stage methodology. Qualitative stage: 15 focus groups, conducted across 12 cities Quantitative stage: 1,508 telephone surveys 23,511 online surveys
		Confidence
		 Very high level of statistical confidence across all findings. Between 95-97% statistical confidence for almost all questions
		Dates
ns. were		 Qualitative stage: Focus groups: 14th to 25th October Quantitative stage: Telephone survey: 31st October to 10th November Online survey: 28th October to 14th November



2. Methodology & Sample

Details of the Sample











COVID-19 Booster Vaccinations





78% aware fully vaccinated against COVID-19 means 4 vaccinations

1. Did you know that being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 means having all the your recommended booster shots (currently 4 vaccinations, including 2 boosters)?

78% aware fully vaccinated against COVID-19 means 4 vaccinations

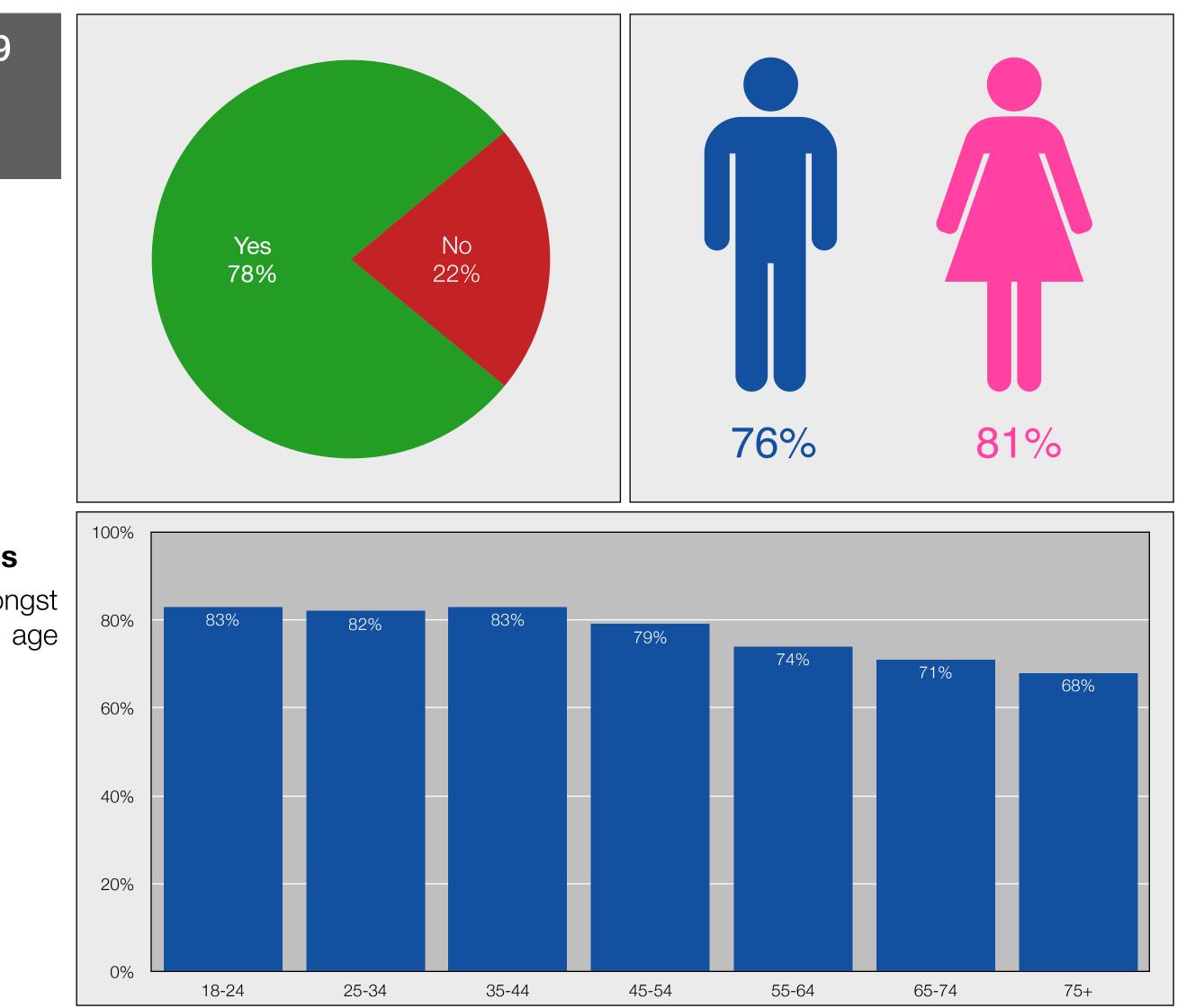
- For the question, illustrated in the opposite, top chart:
 - 78% answered "Yes"
 - 22% answered "No"

Highest incidence amongst women

- There was a higher incidence amongst women who answered "Yes":
 - 81% of women answered "Yes"; compared to 76% of men

Variation across age groups, decreasing amongst the older age groups

- As illustrated in the chart opposite, there was variation across age groups amongst those who answered "Yes", with the incidence decreasing amongst the older age groups:
 - 83% of those aged 18-24 answered "Yes" followed by:
 - 82% (25-34)
 - 83% (35-44)
 - 79% (45-54)
 - 74% (55-64)
 - 71% (65-74)
 - 68% (75+)







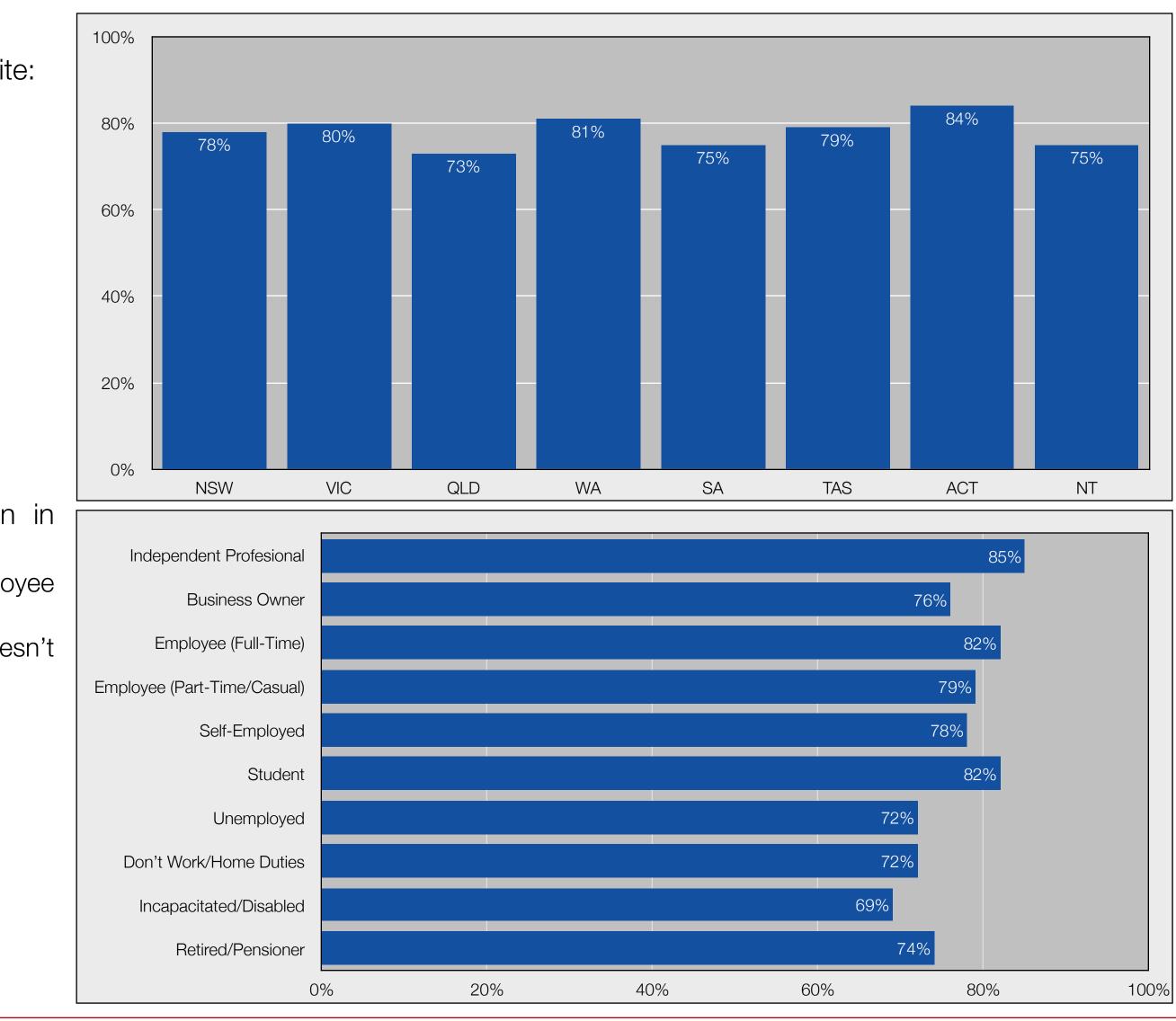
Variation across geographic areas & socio-economic criteria

Variation across the States & Territories

- Across the States and Territories there was variation, illustrated in the chart opposite:
 - ACT (84%) & WA (81%) had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" followed by:
 - VIC (80%)
 - TAS (79%)
 - NSW (78%)
 - SA & NT (75%)
 - QLD (73%)
- Across metropolitan, regional and rural areas there was also some variation:
 - Metropolitan areas had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" (79%)
 - Regional (75%)
 - Rural (72%)

Variation across occupation

- Across the socio-economic criteria, occupation had a high level of variation in responses amongst those who answered "Yes" where:
- "Independent Professional" had the highest response to "Yes" (85%), followed by "Employee" (Full-Time)" (82%) & "Student" (82%)
- "Incapacitated/Disabled" (69%) had the lowest response to "Yes", followed by "Doesn't Work/Home Duties" (71%) & "Unemployed" (72%)



Variation across other demographic & socio-economic criteria

Variation based on household income

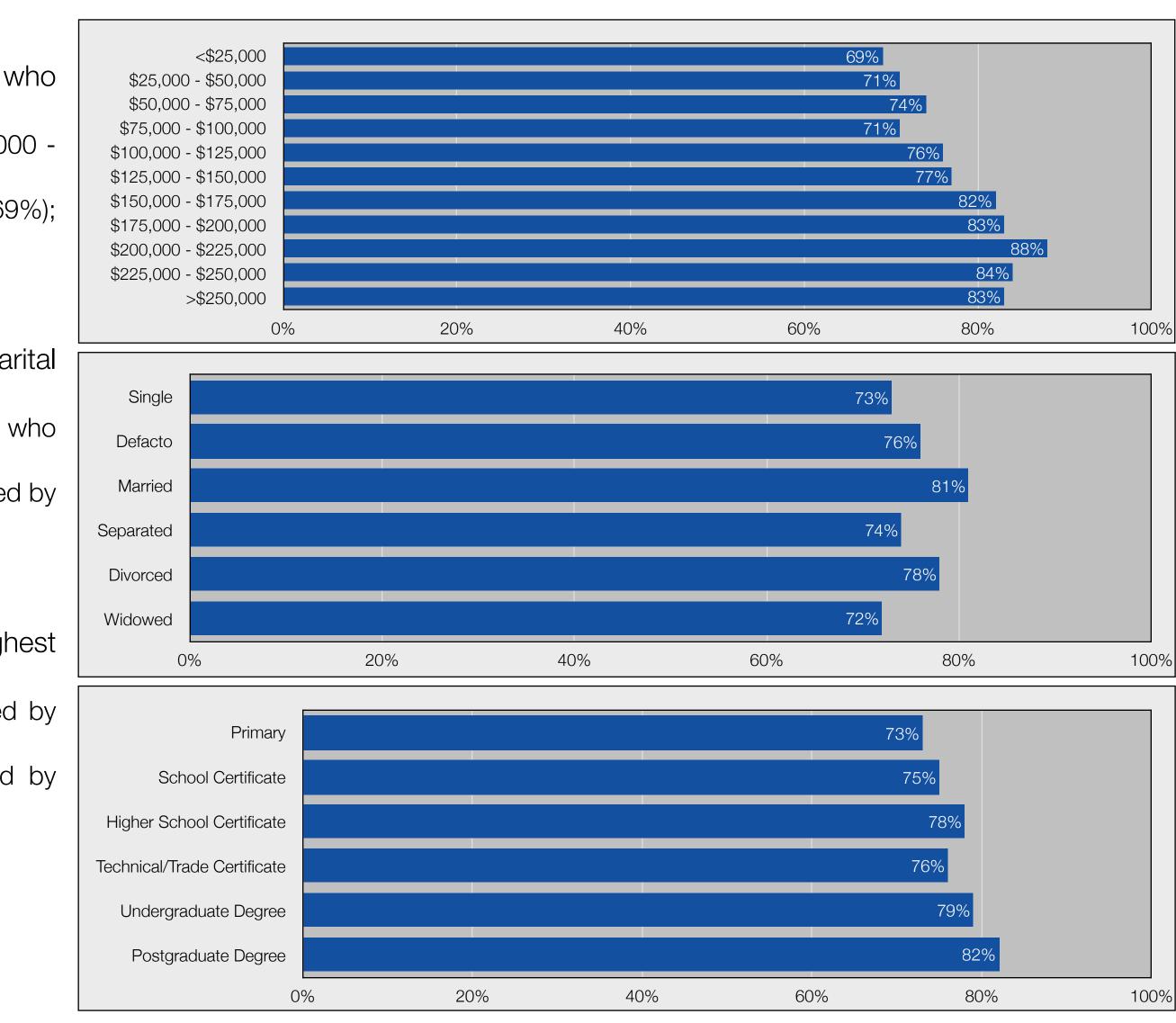
- There was significant variation across household income, amongst those who answered "Yes" as shown in the opposite top chart:
- "\$200,000 \$225,000" had the highest response to "Yes" (88%), followed by "\$225,000 -\$250,000" (84%)
- The lowest response to "Yes" based on household income was from "<\$25,000" (69%); "\$25,000 - \$50,000" & "\$75,000 - \$100,000" (71%)

Variation across marital status

- There was some variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their marital status, as shown in the opposite middle chart:
- Those who were "Married" (81%) had the highest response to "Yes" followed by those who were "Divorced" (78%)
- Conversely, those who were "Widowed" (72%) had the lowest response to "Yes" followed by those who were "Single" (73%)

Variation across education

- There was some variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their highest level of education, as shown in the opposite bottom chart, where:
- Those with "Postgraduate Degree" (82%) had the highest response to "Yes" followed by "Undergraduate Degree" (79%)
- Conversely, those with "Primary" (73%) had the lowest response to "Yes" followed by "School Certificate" (75%)





41% are fully vaccinated (4 vaccinations, including 2 boosters)

2. Are you fully vaccinated (had 4 vaccinations, including 2 boosters)?

41% are fully vaccinated

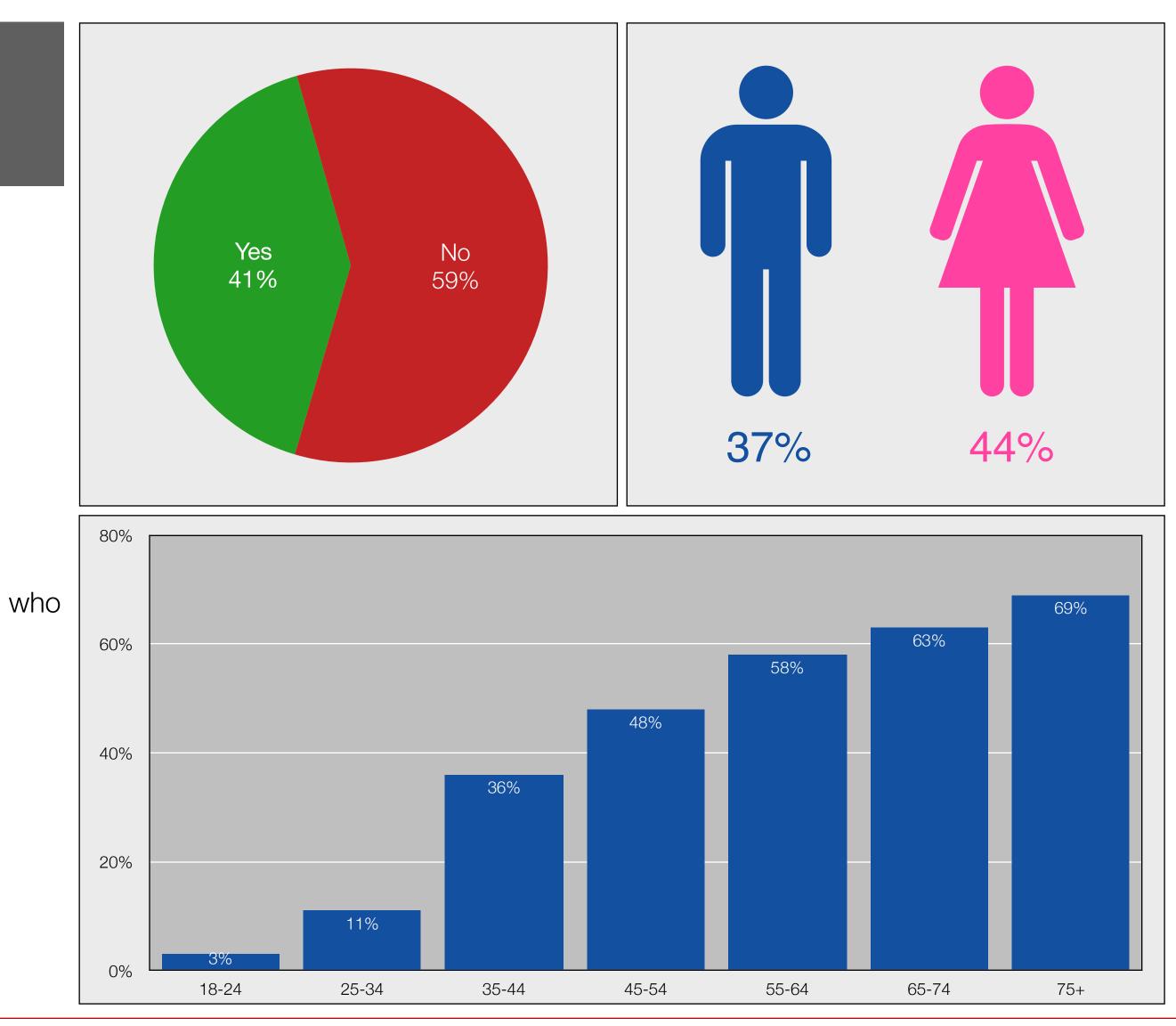
- For the question, illustrated in the opposite, top chart:
 - 41% answered "Yes"
 - 59% answered "No"

Highest incidence amongst women

• There was a higher incidence amongst women to be fully vaccinated: - 44% of women answered "Yes"; compared to 37% of men

Age the major factor, with incidence increasing with age

- As illustrated in the chart opposite, age was the major factor amongst those who answered "Yes" that they fully vaccinated, with the incidence increasing with age:
 - 3% of those aged 18-24 years & 11% (25-34) answered "Yes", increasing to:
 - 36% (35-44)
 - 48% (45-54)
 - 58% (55-64)
 - 63% (65-74)
 - 69% (75+)





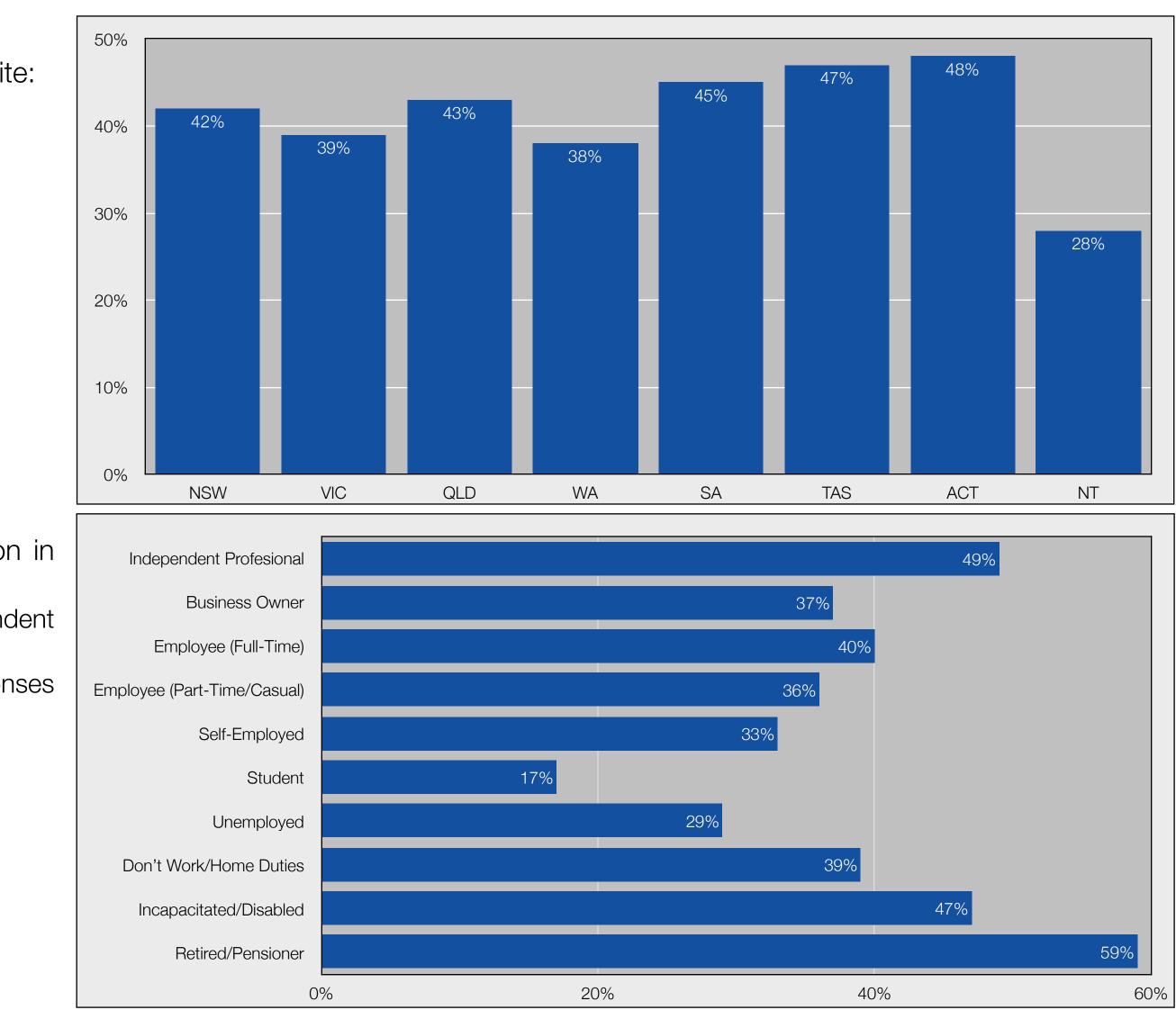
Variation across geographic areas & socio-economic criteria

Variation across the States & Territories

- Across the States and Territories there was variation, illustrated in the chart opposite:
 - ACT had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" (48%), followed by TAS (47%)
 - SA (45%)
 - QLD (43%)
 - NSW (42%)
 - VIC (39%)
 - WA (38%)
 - NT (28%)
- Across metropolitan, regional and rural areas there was also some variation:
 - Metropolitan areas had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" (42%)
 - Regional (38%)
 - Rural (34%)

Variation across occupation

- Across the socio-economic criteria, occupation had the highest level of variation in responses amongst those who answered "Yes" where:
- "Retired/Pensioner" had the highest response to "Yes" (59%), followed by "Independent Professional" (49%) & "Incapacitated/Disabled" (47%)
- "Student" (17%), "Unemployed" (29%) & "Self-Employed" (33%) had the lowest responses to "Yes"



Variation across other demographic & socio-economic criteria

Variation based on household income

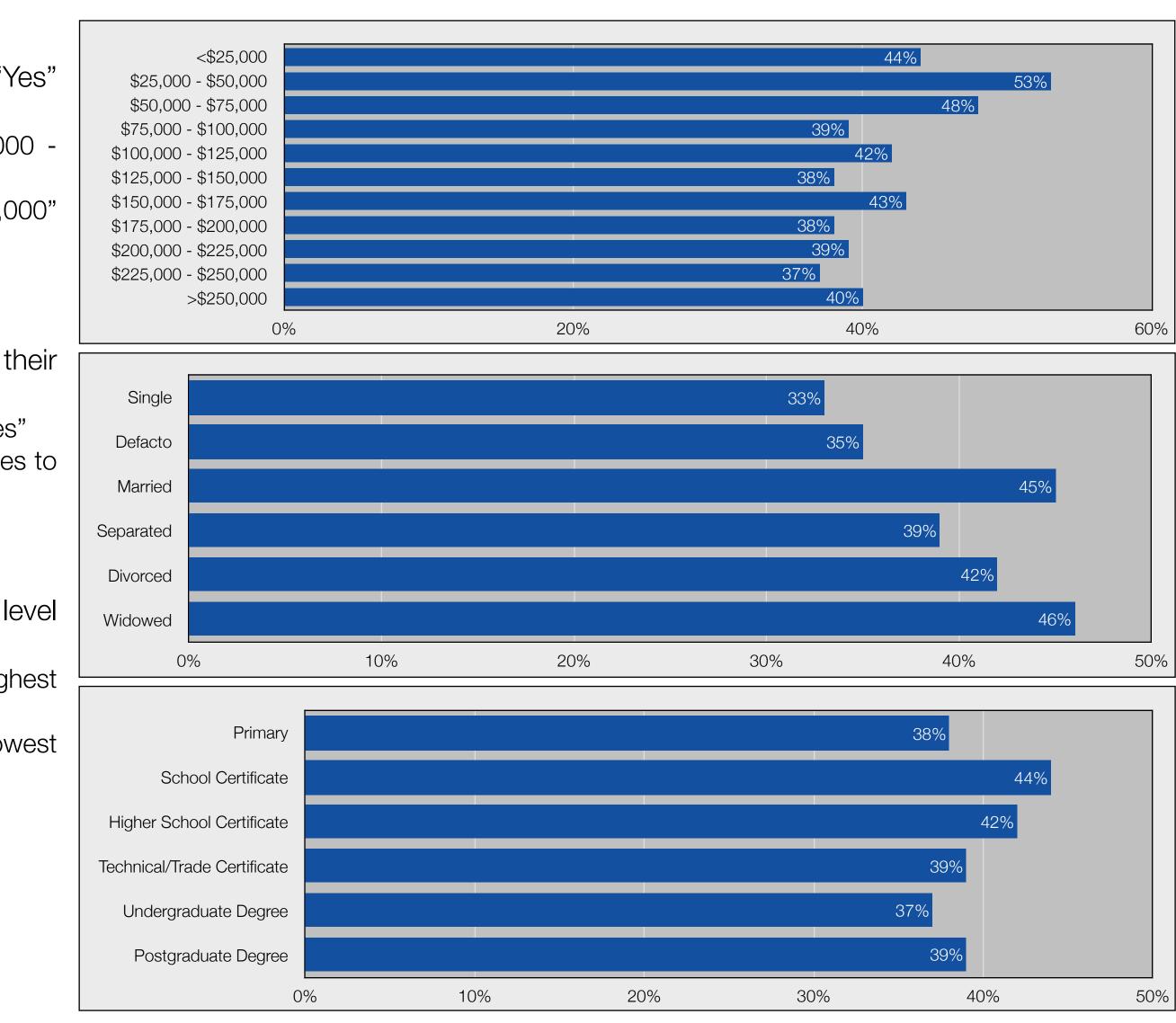
- There was variation across household income, amongst those who answered "Yes" as shown in the opposite top chart:
 - "\$25,000 \$50,000" had the highest response to "Yes" (53%), followed by "\$50,000 -\$75,000" (48%) & "<\$25,000" (44%)
 - The lowest response to "Yes" based on household income was from "\$225,000 \$250,000" (37%); "\$125,000 - \$150,000" & "\$175,000 - \$200,000" (38%)

Variation across marital status

- There was noticeable variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their marital status, as shown in the opposite middle chart:
 - Those who were "Widowed" (46%) or "Married" (45%) had the highest responses to "Yes"
 - Conversely, those who were "Single" (33%) or "Defacto" (35%) had the lowest responses to "Yes"

Variation across education

- There was variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their highest level of education, as shown in the opposite bottom chart, where:
- Those with "School Certificate" (44%) & "Higher School Certificate" (42%) had the highest responses to "Yes"
- Conversely, those with "Undergraduate Degree" (37%) & "Primary" (38%) had the lowest responses to "Yes"





43% intend to become fully vaccinated

3. If you are not fully vaccinated, do you intend to become fully vaccinated?

Asked to the 59% who were not fully vaccinated

• This question was was asked only to the 59% who answered "No" in the previous question, that they were not fully vaccinated (had 4 vaccinations, including 2 boosters).

43% intend to become fully vaccinated

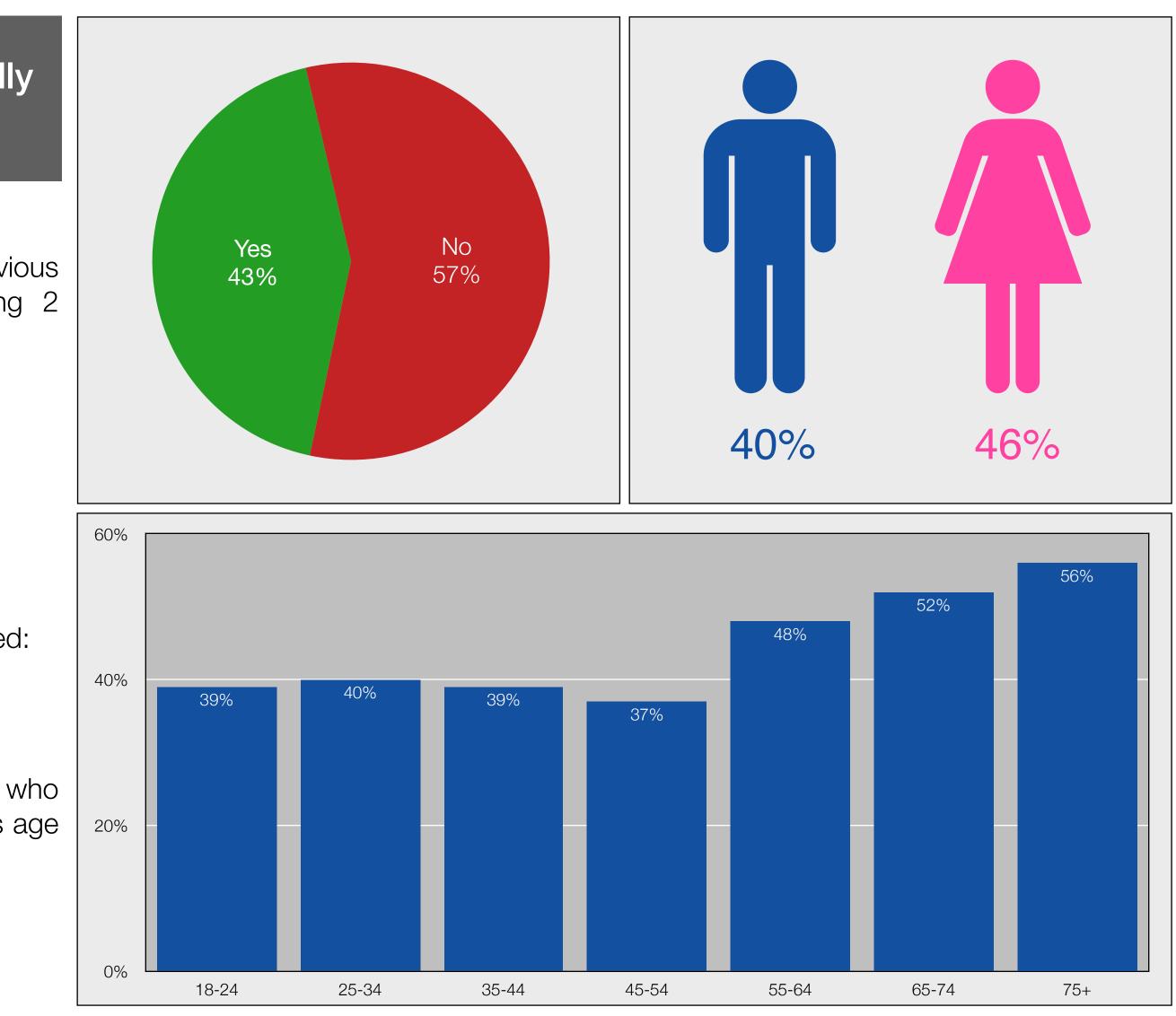
- For the question, illustrated in the opposite, top chart:
 - 43% answered "Yes"
 - 57% answered "No"

Highest incidence amongst women

• There was a higher incidence amongst women to intend to become fully vaccinated: - 46% of women answered "Yes"; compared to 40% of men

Age the major factor, with variation across age groups

- As illustrated in the chart opposite, age was the major factor amongst those who answered "Yes" that they intend to become fully vaccinated, with variation across age groups:
 - 39% of those aged 18-24 years & 40% (25-34) answered "Yes" followed by:
 - 39% (35-44); 37% (45-54); 48% (55-64); 52% (65-74) and 56% (75+)





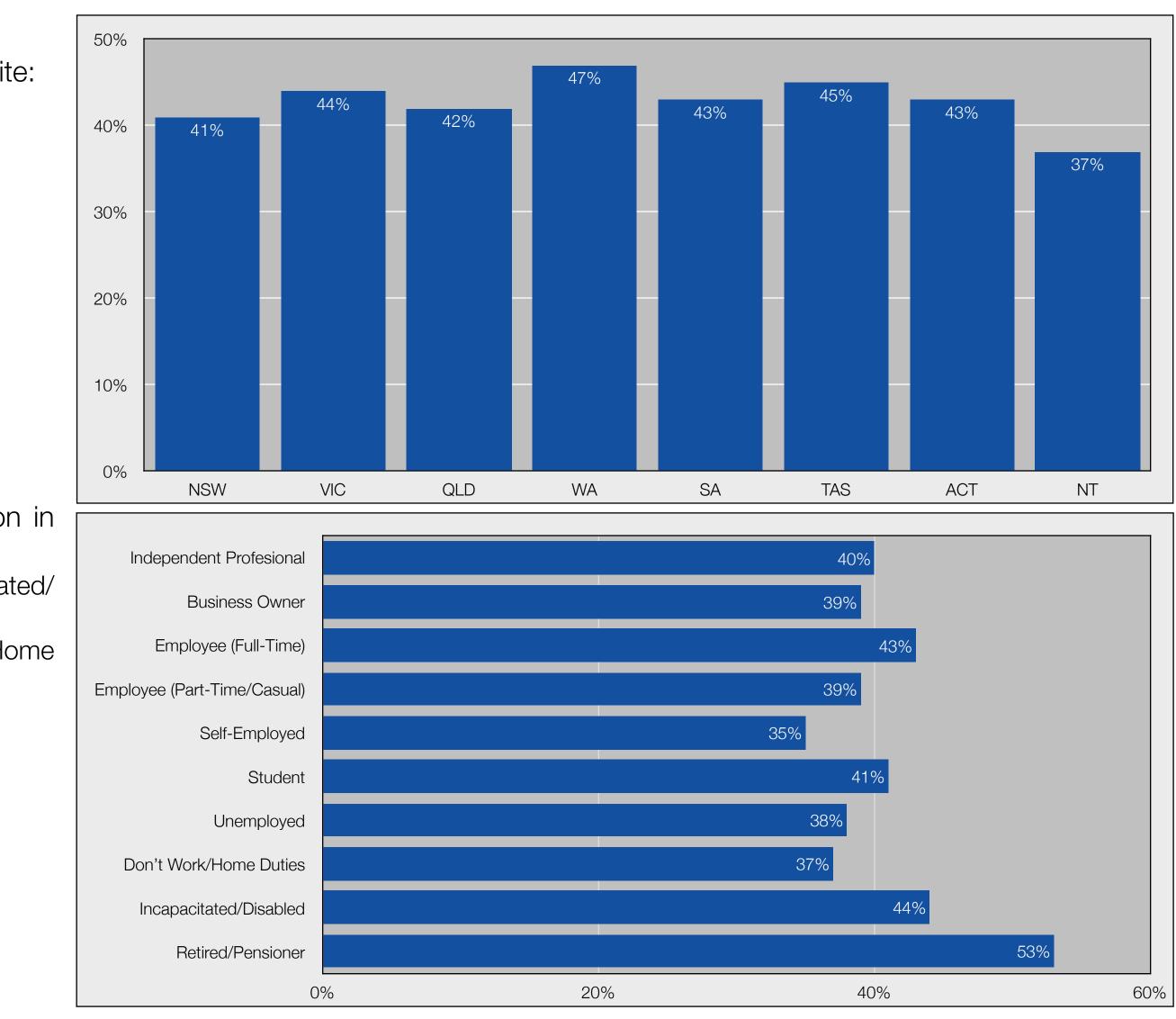
Variation across geographic areas & socio-economic criteria

Variation across the States & Territories

- Across the States and Territories there was variation, illustrated in the chart opposite:
 - WA had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" (47%), followed by TAS (45%)
 - VIC (44%)
 - SA & ACT (43%)
 - QLD (42%)
 - NSW (41%)
 - NT (37%)
- Across metropolitan, regional and rural areas there was also some variation:
 - Metropolitan areas had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" (44%)
 - Regional (41%)
 - Rural (39%)

Variation across occupation

- Across the socio-economic criteria, occupation had the highest level of variation in responses amongst those who answered "Yes" where:
- "Retired/Pensioner" had the highest response to "Yes" (53%) followed by "Incapacitated/ Disabled" (44%)
- "Self-Employed" (35%) had the lowest responses to "Yes" followed by ""Don't Work/Home Duties" (37%)



Variation across other demographic & socio-economic criteria

Variation based on household income

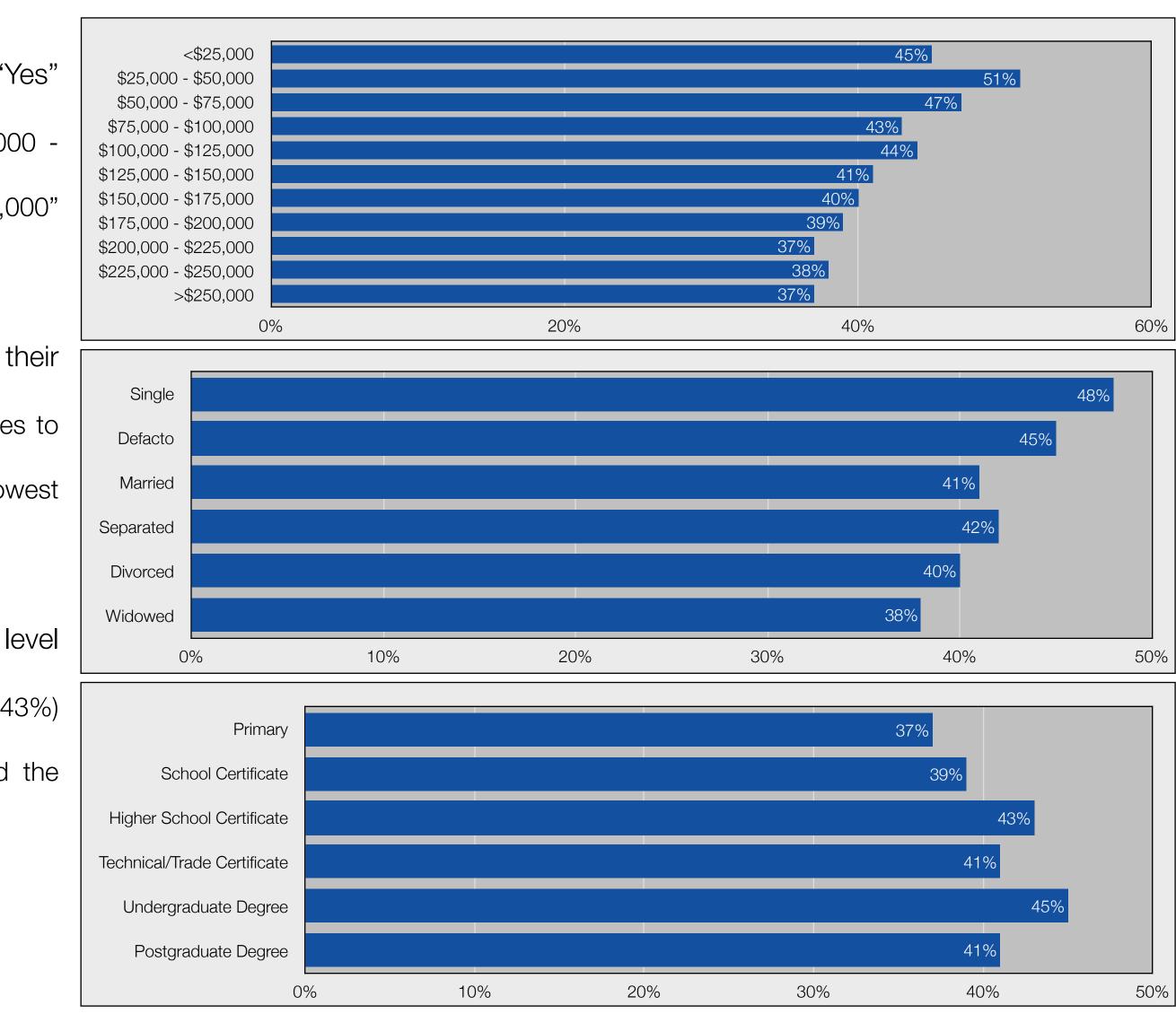
- There was variation across household income, amongst those who answered "Yes" as shown in the opposite top chart:
 - "\$25,000 \$50,000" had the highest response to "Yes" (51%), followed by "\$50,000 \$75,000" (47%) & "<\$25,000" (45%)
 - The lowest response to "Yes" based on household income was from "\$200,000 \$225,000" & ">250,000" (37%) followed by "\$225,000 \$250,000" (38%)

Variation across marital status

- There was noticeable variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their marital status, as shown in the opposite middle chart:
 - Those who were "Single" (48%) followed by "Defect" (45%) had the highest responses to "Yes"
 - Conversely, those who were "Widowed" (38%) followed by "Divorced" (40%) had the lowest responses to "Yes"

Variation across education

- There was variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their highest level of education, as shown in the opposite bottom chart, where:
- Those with "Undergraduate Degree" (45%) followed by "Higher School Certificate" (43%) had the highest responses to "Yes"
- Conversely, those with "Primary" (37%) followed by "School Certificate" (39%) had the lowest responses to "Yes"





Main reasons for intending to become fully vaccinated

Being as fully protected as possible

- A large number in most focus groups said their main reason for being fully vaccinat was to be as fully protected as possible, on observation and probing, these people
- Tended to be older (50+)
- Are employed where they come into contact with large numbers of people
- A large proportion have not had COVID-19 yet
- A noticeable proportion mentioned they have underlying health condition/s
- Had a partner or someone close to them with underlying health condition/s

Feel more comfortable in public and living life

- The second most common response given was wanting as much protection possible, to feel comfortable in public and living life, such as:
- Going to restaurants, cinemas and shopping
- Seeing family and friends, especially those who are elderly
- Traveling for leisure and work
- Participate in social activities such as sporting and hobby groups, community volunteering groups and to feel protected
- Being a good citizen/showing social goodwill by being vaccinated

Lessen illness from COVID-19

- The third most common response given was lessening the illness from COVIDspecifically:
- Many believed that being fully vaccinated reduced the symptoms and length of illness w COVID-19 is contracted
- A noticeable number across many groups stated that to their knowledge they have n had COVID-19, but thought it possible they may have had it but the vaccines worked they never knew they had it
- A noticeable number in many groups said that they believed being fully vaccinated redu the risk of long-COVID symptoms

ited, e:	"I just want to do whatever I can not to get it (COVID-19) as I have lasted this long and have any problems with the vaccines, I think they have done wonders." Nick, 61, Self-Employed, East Killara (Sydne
4	"If I don't stay fully vaccinated, I'm going to continuously keep getting it (COVID-19) be work in retail sales and have had it once already and many of the people I work with hav the second time now." Connie, 36, Assistant Store Manager, Donvale (Melbour
1 as	"I have rheumatoid arthritis and with that comes a weaker immune system, so I am quite of getting COVID and my GP and Rheumatologist strongly advise I keep getting the b when they come out, so I will." Joanne, 47, Editor, Fullarton (Adela
and	"After two years of practically being locked up, it is so good to be out and about living life its hard to imagine that this time last year it was impossible to be here like we are now an because of the vaccines, so I think having a booster or two each year isn't a big deal to to have out lives back." Sanduni, 39, Tax Accountant, Lalor (Melbour
-19,	
vhen	"I had COVID back in August and I barely knew that I even had it and I attribute that to been fully vaccinated, I had the original two and two boosters, one in early January and the in early July, so the vaccines definitely work and I heard can reduce long-COVID sympto- well, so for the foreseeable future I will keep myself fully vaccinated."
and	Isaac, 52, Audiologist, Hurstville (Sydne
uced	



Main reasons for not intending to become fully vaccinated

Main reasons mirrored those in following question

 Interestingly, the main reasons given for not intending to become fully vaccina across the focus groups, mirrored those in the following question, validating these being main reasons.

Too many vaccinations, required too often

- The majority in almost all focus groups said their main reason for not intending become fully vaccinated, was because it requires having too many vaccinations, often, common themes stated were:
- One booster per year would generally be acceptable to most
- Two or three per year which seems to be the requirement for most people aged 40 viewed as being too many

Side effects are concerning

- The second most common response given was the side effects of COVIE vaccinations were concerning, where it was commonly stated:
- Many experienced what they consider to be quite severe or concerning side effects receiving COVID-19 vaccinations themselves, or someone close to them did
- Many mentioned other illnesses or health problems that either they experienced or some close to them did, such as shingles, heart problems, eyesight problems, ongoing heada and fatigue

Waiting for updated vaccines

- The third most common response given was that many were waiting for update vaccines to be made available, where the most common reasons given were:
- The current vaccines were for the original strain of COVID-19 and offered little benefit aga the current Omicron variants
- They would consider becoming fully vaccinated when new (Omicron) vaccines were released

ated e as	"Requiring 2 boosters a year seems to be what it is required to be fully vaccinated, its much and I don't think, actually I'm convinced, that's not good for my body or anyone el don't intend to become full vaccinated, I got my first booster but that's it for me."
	Louise, 55, Paralegal, Warrawee (Sydne
g to too	"We all went along with being told we needed the first two doses, then we were told a would be needed and throughout this year the narrative has shifted that we will need three boosters every year, for a virus that isn't very dangerous anymore and the vacci how many we are told we need to have are potentially more dangerous than the virus."
	Min, 42, Real Estate Agent, Tingalpar (Brisba
D+ is	"If there was only one vaccination that we needed each year to be fully vaccinated, like then I would probably accept that and have it, but two boosters this year and now new third booster is out just this year, that's way too much and unless I need to show vaccinated to go where I want to go, then I won't be having them."
D-19	Callum, 39, Business Owner, Winnellie (Da
J-19	
after	"It is the side effects that I find worrying, I know so many people that had some severe side effects shortly after or a few weeks after having the vaccines (COVID-19) like my 41 sister who got Shingles and I've heard other quite young people getting Shingles after vaccines, plus other things like beart problems, so taking more and more of them is we
eone .ches	vaccines, plus other things like heart problems, so taking more and more of them is wo getting COVID."
	Anne-Marie, 44, Product Manager, Fitzgibbon (Brisba
	"I haven't had the accord haster which I could have but herewas it is just the com
ated	"I haven't had the second booster which I could have, but because it is just the same previous three I've had and they are the ones made for the original virus (COVID-19) whi don't cover against Omicron strains which are the main ones around now, or even Delta which may have gone away, then I think it is a bit pointless to keep getting that vaccine been waiting for the new one that covers agains Omicron."
	Nasir, 48, Chef, Burwood (Sydne
ased	



39% believe to become fully vaccinated involves too many vaccinations

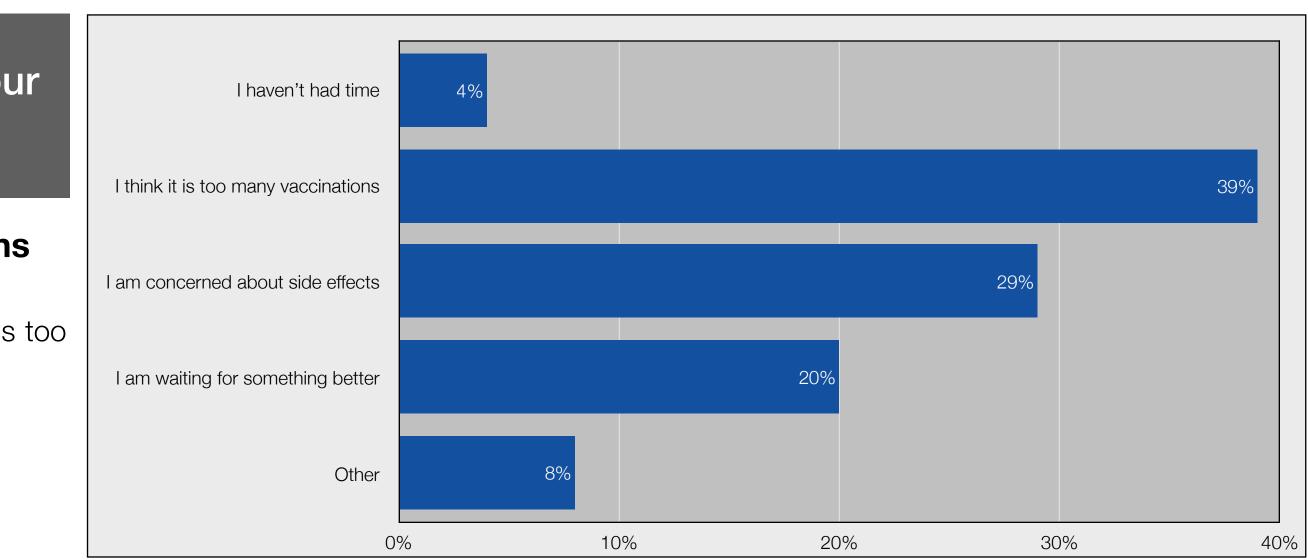
4. If you do not intend to become fully vaccinated, what is your main reason for this?

39% believe to become fully vaccinated involves too many vaccinations

- For the question, illustrated in the opposite, top chart:
 - The most common response, accounting for 39% of overall responses was "I think it is too many vaccinations"
 - The second most common response was "I am concerned about side effects" (29%)
 - "I am waiting for something better" (20%)
 - "I haven't had time" (3%)
 - "Other" (8%)

Differences across gender and age

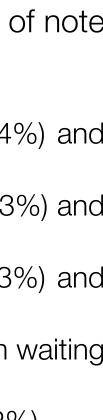
- There were notable differences in responses gender age, where:
 - There were some relatively minor differences across geographical areas, those of note - Men had the highest responses to "I think it is too many vaccinations" (43%), compared to being: women (37%) and "I am waiting for something better" (22%), compared to women (19%)
 - Women had the highest responses to "I am concerned about side effects" (34%), compared to men (26%) and "I haven't had time" (5%), compared to men (3%)
- In terms of age, the main differences were:
 - The younger age groups (18-24 & 25-34) had the highest response to "I am waiting for something better" (24%), compared to those aged 65+ who had the lowest response (14%)
 - Middle-aged groups (35-44 & 45-54) had the highest response to "I think it is too many vaccinations" (43%) & "I haven't had time" (5%)
 - Those aged 35-44 had the highest response to "I am concerned about side effects" (35%), followed by those aged 45-54 (33%), conversely those aged 65+ had the lowest response (23%), followed by those aged 55-64 (26%)



Minor differences across States, Territories & geographical areas

- The highest responses for "I haven't had time" were from ACT (6%) and NSW (5%)
- The highest responses for "I think it is too many vaccinations" were from QLD (44%) and NSW (42%)
- The highest responses for "I am concerned about the side effects" were from SA (33%) and TAS (32%)
 - The highest responses for "I am waiting for something better" were from NSW (23%) and VIC (22%)
- Metropolitan areas had the highest responses for "I haven't had time" (4%) and "I am waiting for something better" (21%)
 - Regional areas had the highest responses for "I think it is too many vaccinations" (42%)





Other reasons given for not intending to become fully vaccinated

"Other" responses

- 8% gave "Other" as their response, where they were asked to state it, the most common were:
 - "Current boosters don't offer protection against Omicron variants" was the most common response given, accounting for 17% of all "Other" responses
 - "It is still too soon after my last COVID vaccination to have another one to become fully vaccinated" (13%)
 - "Concerned about future negative effects on the body" (12%)
 - "Current Omicron variants are not very dangerous" (10%)
 - "Have had COVID and have some natural immunity" (10%)
 - "Know of people close to me who have had negative side-effects from COVID-19 vaccinations" (8%)
 - "Do not wish to get on the endless cycle of requiring boosters" (6%)
 - "Believe COVID is coming to an end and future vaccination will not be needed" (6%)



37% would get a 5th COVID-19 vaccination if it is recommended

5. Would you get a 5th COVID-19 vaccination if it is recommended (and becomes the new definition of fully vaccinated)?

37% would get a 5th COVID-19 vaccination if it is recommended

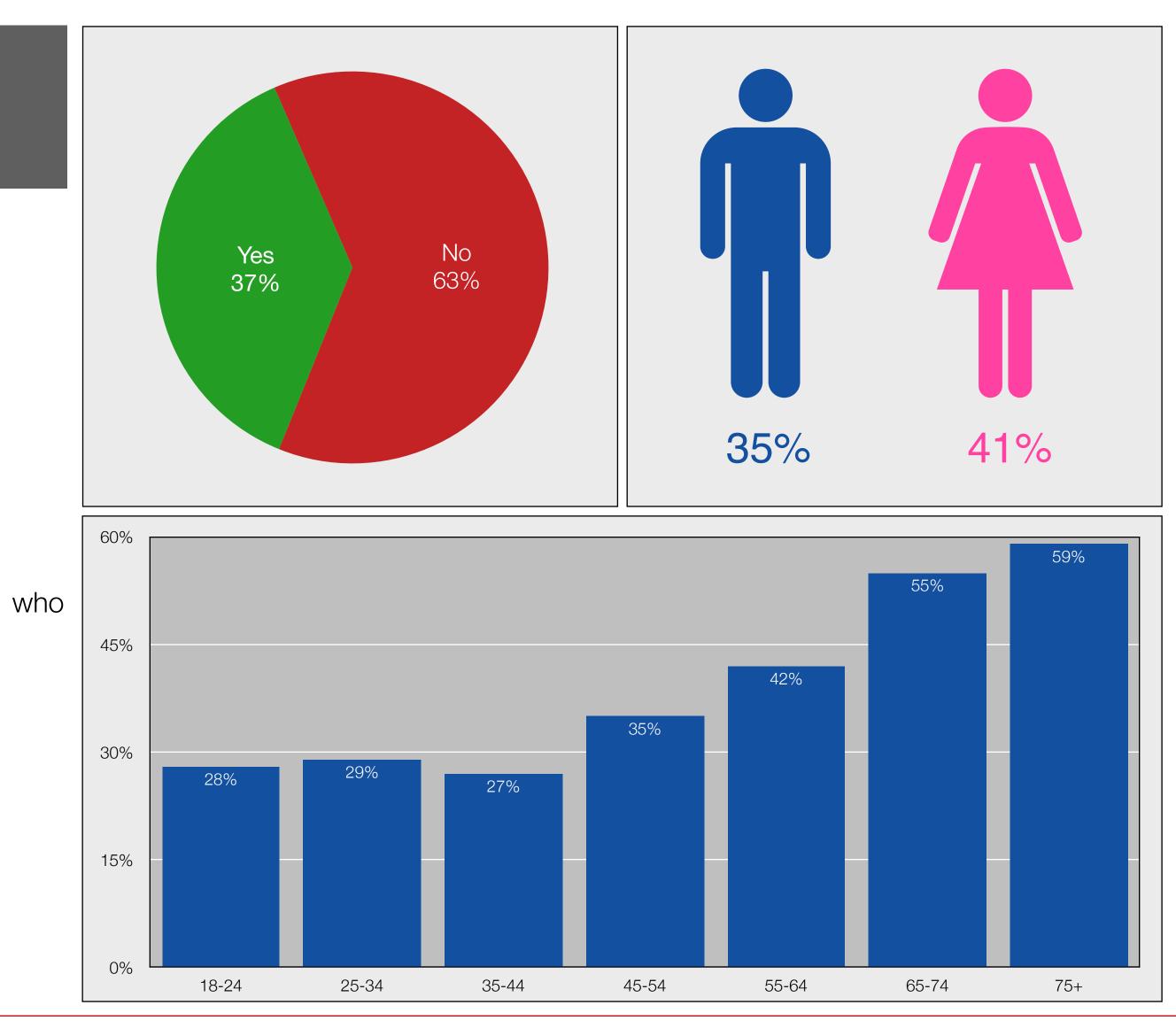
- For the question, illustrated in the opposite, top chart:
 - 37% answered "Yes"
 - 63% answered "No"

Highest incidence amongst women

- There was a higher incidence amongst women answering "Yes":
 - 41% of women answered "Yes"; compared to 35% of men

Age the major factor, generally increasing with age

- As illustrated in the chart opposite, age was the major factor amongst those who answered "Yes" with the incidence generally increasing with age:
 - 28% of those aged 18-24 years & 29% (25-34) answered "Yes" followed by:
 - 27% (35-44)
 - 35% (45-54)
 - 42% (55-64)
 - 55% (65-74)
 - 59% (75+)





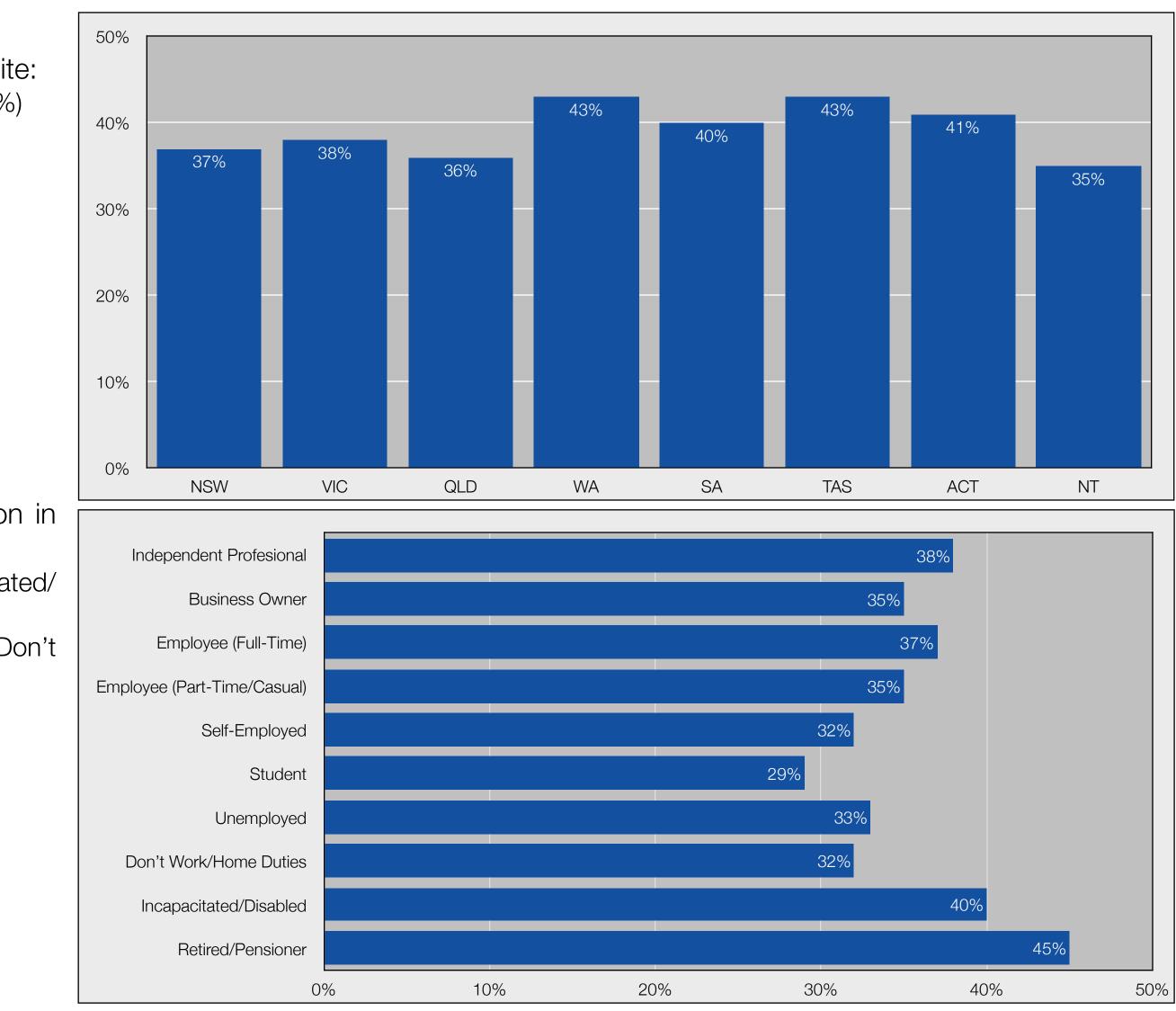
Variation across geographic areas & socio-economic criteria

Variation across the States & Territories

- Across the States and Territories there was variation, illustrated in the chart opposite:
 - WA & TAS had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" (43%), followed by ACT (41%)
 - SA (40%)
 - VIC (38%)
 - NSW (37%)
 - QLD (36%)
 - NT (35%)
- Across metropolitan, regional and rural areas there was also some variation:
 - Metropolitan areas had the highest proportion who answered "Yes" (39%)
 - Regional (35%)
 - Rural (32%)

Variation across occupation

- Across the socio-economic criteria, occupation had a very high level of variation in responses amongst those who answered "Yes" where:
- "Retired/Pensioner" had the highest response to "Yes" (45%) followed by "Incapacitated/ Disabled" (40%)
- "Student" (29%) had the lowest responses to "Yes" followed by "Self-Employed" & "Don't Work/Home Duties" (32%)





Variation across other demographic & socio-economic criteria

Variation based on household income

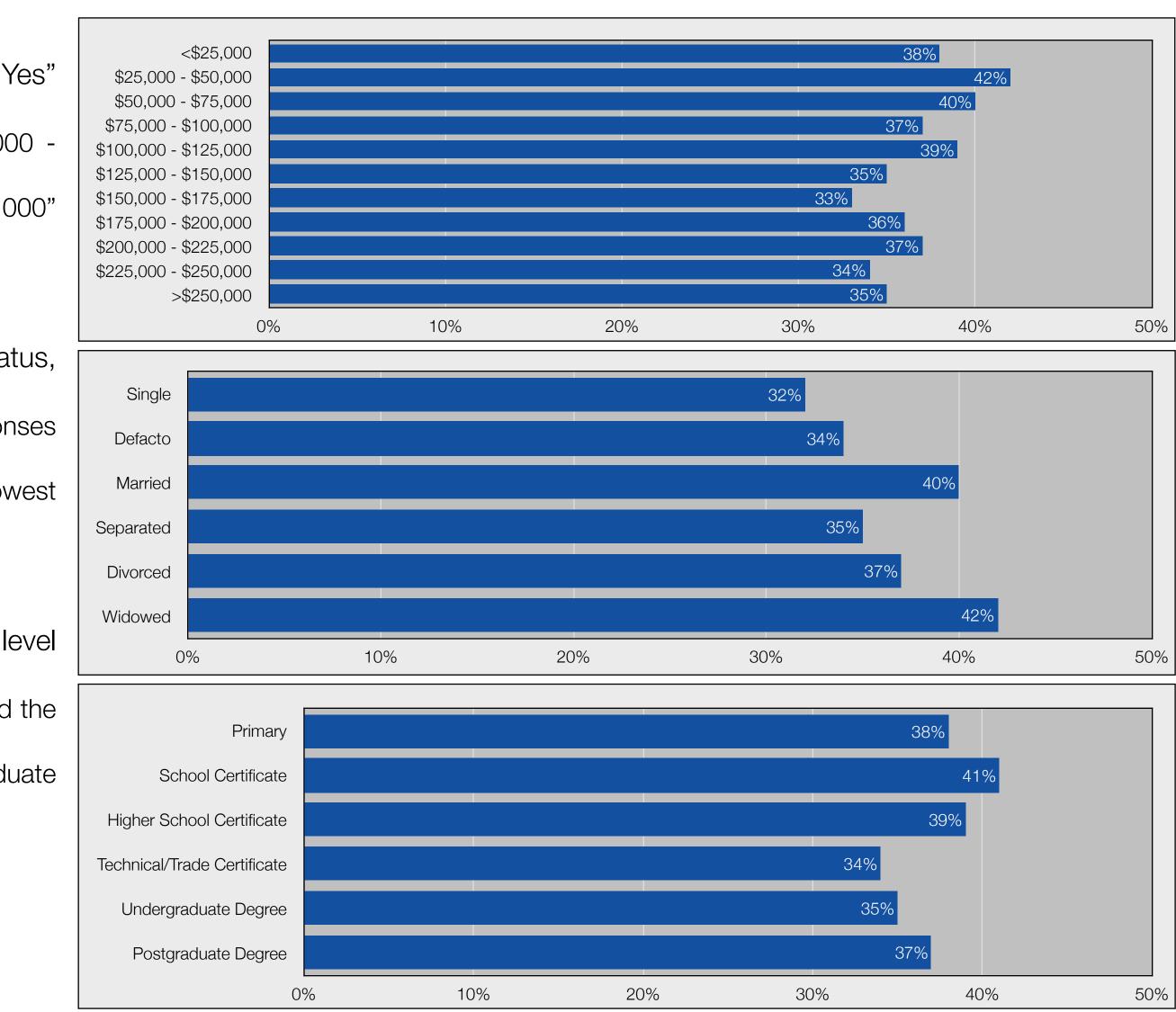
- There was variation across household income, amongst those who answered "Yes" as shown in the opposite top chart:
 - "\$25,000 \$50,000" had the highest response to "Yes" (42%), followed by "\$50,000 -\$75,000" (40%) & "\$100,000 - \$125,000" (39%)
 - The lowest response to "Yes" based on household income was from "\$150,000 \$175,000" (33%) followed by "\$225,000 - \$250,000" (34%)

Variation across marital status

- There was variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their marital status, as shown in the opposite middle chart:
- Those who were "Widowed" (42%) followed by "Married" (40%) had the highest responses to "Yes"
- Conversely, those who were "Single" (32%) followed by "Defacto" (34%) had the lowest responses to "Yes"

Variation across education

- There was variation amongst those who answered "Yes" based on their highest level of education, as shown in the opposite bottom chart, where:
- Those with "School Certificate" (41%) followed by "Higher School Certificate" (39%) had the highest responses to "Yes"
- Conversely, those with "Technical/Trade Certificate" (34%) followed by "Undergraduate Degree" (35%) had the lowest responses to "Yes"





4 Further Information



4. Further Information

Contact Details

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For media enquiries, please use the above telephone number.

For any other enquiries and further information, please visit our website and fill the contact form on: www.immunisationcoalition.org.au/about-us/contact-us/



immunisationcoalition

immunisationgap

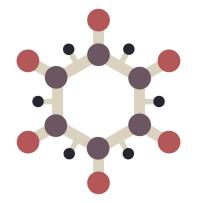


Immunisationcoalition



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C O A L I T I O N



IMMUNISATION 0 Α LIT С Ν 0

The Immunisation Coalition wishes to thank APMI Partners (Australia) for producing this survey.

www.apmipartners

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