

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Project Name

The Australian Internet Usage Survey.

Client Name

RMIT University and Swinburne University have commissioned the Social Research Centre to conduct a survey with Australians to understand how many Australians have access to the internet and how they use the internet.

The survey provides the opportunity for you to share your experiences to help design programs to improve internet access, affordability and skills to help ensure all Australians can benefit from being online.

Ethics information

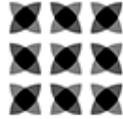
You are invited to contribute to the Australian Internet Usage Survey research project by completing a short survey either online or in paper form (with a reply-paid envelope supplied).

The Australian Internet Usage Survey is a Swinburne and RMIT University project that has produced annual reports on the digital inclusion of Australians since 2016. The results are used by Australian governments and organisations to design programs to improve internet access, affordability and skills with the aim of ensuring all Australians can benefit from being online.

We greatly appreciate your effort in contributing to this important piece of research. It is vital that we hear from all types of internet users as well as people who don't use the internet.

Here's a few things you should know:

- (1) You must be aged 18 years or over to take part in the survey.
- (2) The survey takes around 15-20 minutes and is shorter if you are not an internet user as you get to skip through questions that are not relevant to you.
- (3) You will be asked about your internet access, cost and use, as well as your digital skills and some basic information about you, such as your age and gender.
- (4) Your participation is entirely voluntary, and you can opt out at any point. Submitting the survey online or in paper form indicates your consent to participate.
- (5) You will be reimbursed with a \$10 voucher to compensate you for your time.
- (6) The survey is anonymous - you are not asked to supply your name or any identifying information. The data is collected on a secured server and any digital footprint made by completing the survey online is removed to reduce the risk that survey answers could be traced to a device.



- (7) The project is funded by Telstra, but the results are for all Australians. This is not market research.
- (8) The survey data collected will be used to create an annual ADII report made freely available to the public, as well as other reports and academic publications.
- (9) The survey data will be archived indefinitely on the Australian Data Archive for future use and made publicly available to maximise the public value that can be gained from the effort put in by you and all survey participants.

If you have concerns about the ethical conduct of the study please contact Swinburne's Research Ethics Officer: resethics@swin.edu.au; phone: (03) 9214 3845.

FAQs

Who is conducting the survey?

RMIT University and Swinburne University have contracted The Social Research Centre to conduct the survey. The project is funded by Telstra, but the results are for all Australians. This is not market research.

How will the information be used?

We need your input to understand how many Australians have access to the internet and how they use the internet. The results are used by Australian governments and organisations to design programs to improve internet access, affordability and skills with the aim of ensuring all Australians can benefit from being online.

How long will the survey take to complete?

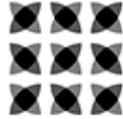
The survey will be completed either online or in paper form (with a reply-paid envelope supplied) and should take about 15-20 minutes to complete.

Is the survey compulsory?

If you would like to participate in this study, you do not need to respond. If you are selected, the Social Research Centre will contact you via a letter in the mail.

Please contact the Social Research Centre by email (aius@srcentre.com.au) or by phone on 1800 023 040 (a free call from all fixed line phones) if:

- you do not want to be contacted,
- you wish to access your personal information following the survey,
- you wish to obtain more specific details about the Social Research Centre's Privacy Policy.



How do you ensure my privacy is protected?

The Social Research Centre complies with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) and the Privacy (Market and Social Research) Code 2014; and takes reasonable steps to protect any personal information from unauthorised access, use, disclosure or loss.

The Social Research Centre's privacy policy provides instructions for access to and correcting personal information, or making queries about privacy and personal information provided and is available at <http://www.srcentre.com.au/privacy>.

If you wish to obtain more specific details on RMIT University's and Swinburne University's Privacy Policy, please visit their websites or call their numbers to obtain a copy:

- RMIT University: <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/governance-and-management/policies/privacy>; (03) 9925 1161
- Swinburne University: <https://www.swinburne.edu.au/privacy/>; (03) 9214 5515

Further information?

The Social Research Centre is a fully accredited research company. Your personal information will only be used for the purposes of this research and not be disclosed to organisations beyond the scope of this project for marketing or research purposes.