



Health and Wellbeing Five Years after the 2019-2020 Bushfires Participant Information

[Introduction](#)

Thank you for your interest in the Health and Wellbeing Five Years after the 2019-2020 Bushfires Survey (the Survey). We are providing you with further information about the project, so that you can decide if you would like to take part in this research.

Please take the time to read this information carefully. You may ask questions about anything you don't understand or want to know more about.

Your participation is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to. If you begin participating, you can also stop at any time.

[What is the research about?](#)

The Survey aims to understand the experiences of people aged 16 years and over who lived through the 2019-2020 bushfires in Tenterfield, Eurobodalla, Clarence Valley and East Gippsland. Governments and community organisations need to understand their residents' health and wellbeing needs to improve health and support services, but they currently lack this detailed information.

With your participation, the Survey seeks to fill this critical gap. We are relying on your contribution to understand the health and wellbeing needs of people in your local area and to support your community. The Survey will take around 30 minutes to complete. By completing the survey, you indicate your consent to participate.

This research is approved by the Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC) ID# 39180 and #46341, and the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC) ID# 2358/24.

[Who is doing the research?](#)

The Survey is supported by Fire to Flourish, a program led by Monash University in partnership with the Eurobodalla, Tenterfield, Clarence Valley, and East Gippsland local government areas. The Survey is being conducted by the Social Research Centre on behalf of Monash University.

[How to complete the survey](#)

You can complete the survey in one of the following ways:

Online:

To complete the Survey online, scan the QR code or type the web address into your browser and enter one of the login codes from your letter. Two login codes have been provided so up to two household members aged 16 years and older can participate. We kindly urge you to complete our online survey at your earliest convenience.



If you have any questions about your participation, you can call the Social Research Centre on 1800 023 040 (a free call) or email firetoflourish@srcentre.com.au.

Paper Hardcopy Booklet:

If you do not complete the survey online, a paper version along with a reply-paid envelope will be mailed to your home address in May 2025.

In-Person Assistance:

Prefer to complete the survey face-to-face? Join us at one of our community survey days.

Please email f2fhealth@monash.edu to register and we'll let you know when and where we'll be in your area.

[What's in it for me?](#)

While there is no payment, participants will receive a \$30 gift card as a respectful recognition of your time to complete the survey. To receive a gift card, you must complete the survey by **6 July 2025**. Gift cards will be posted after the survey end date in July 2025 to the same address invitation materials were sent to.

[Are there any risks to me?](#)

The survey includes questions about the 2019–2020 bushfires, access to healthcare, and health-related experiences. Reflecting on these events may cause discomfort and a list of local support services is available at the end of the survey.

[What about my privacy?](#)

This research follows the Privacy Act and the Australian Privacy Principles. Your information will only be used for research purposes. Our privacy policy is available at: <https://srcentre.com.au/privacy-policy/>.

The survey is anonymous and only summary findings will be shared, ensuring no individual can be identified.

At the end of the survey, you will be asked if you would like to receive a summary of the results. If you agree, please provide your contact details (name, email and/or mobile number). Your contact information will be stored separately and discarded after survey findings are communicated.

[How will my information be stored?](#)

Any information collected as part of this project will be kept strictly confidential. You will not be identified in any reports about this study. Your responses will be securely stored in a password-protected database at Monash University. All data will be anonymised and untraceable to individual participants, in compliance with Monash University data management protocols.



MONASH University



[Who can I contact if I want confidential support?](#)

If you feel any distress or discomfort during or after the survey, you can seek support from general helplines or community-specific organisations. Please refer to this [list](#) of support services.

[Who can I contact for further information?](#)

If you would like to talk to someone about any issues that have arisen from participating in this survey, about how you have been feeling, or if you have any concerns about your mental health, please seek support from one of the support services provided above.

If you have questions about anything, please contact **1800 023 040** (a free call) or email [**firetoflourish@srcentre.com.au**](mailto:firetoflourish@srcentre.com.au).