

Volunteering in Australia Research What's Next from the Organisation Perspective?



Volunteering in Australia Research

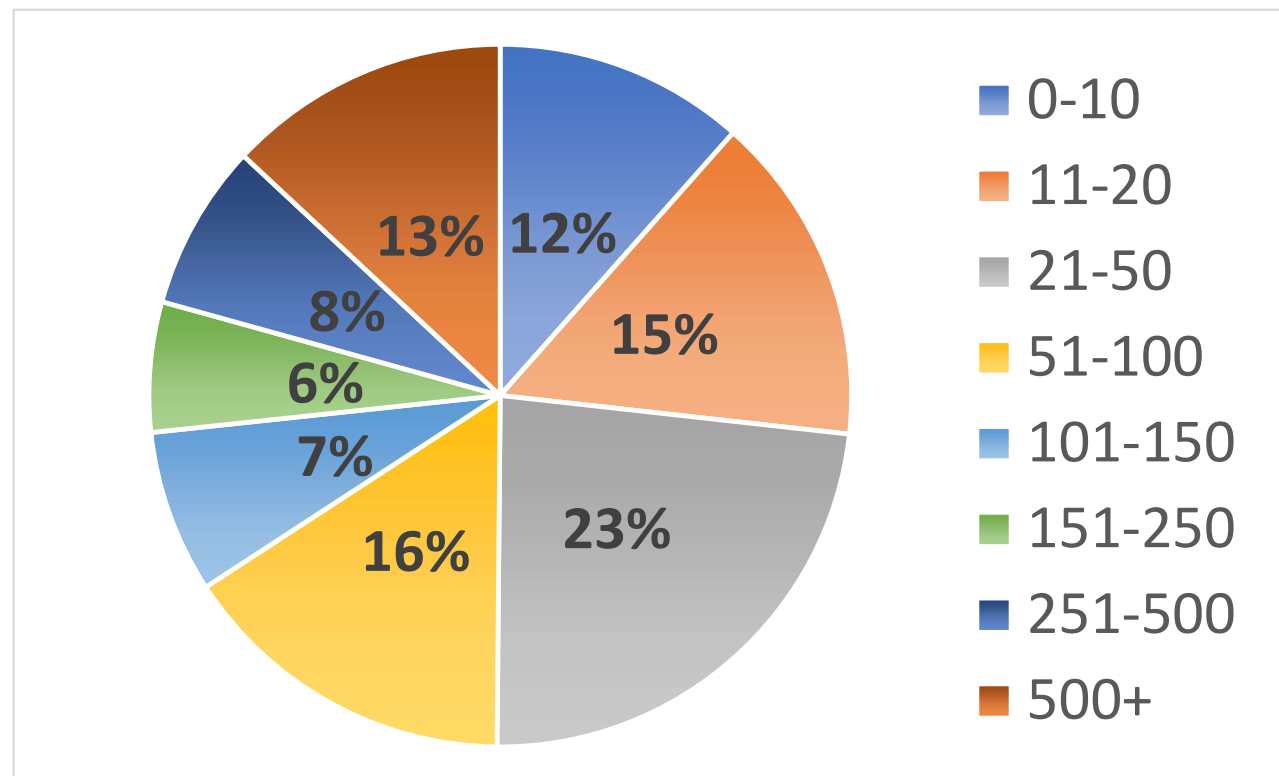


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Methodology

- Online survey open 13 May to 22 June 2022
- Target population: representatives of Australian volunteer involving organisations
- Newsletters, social media, direct emails, VIKTOR/VIRA Mailing List
- 1,345 usable responses
- WA responses = 383

Organisational Size – Volunteers (National)



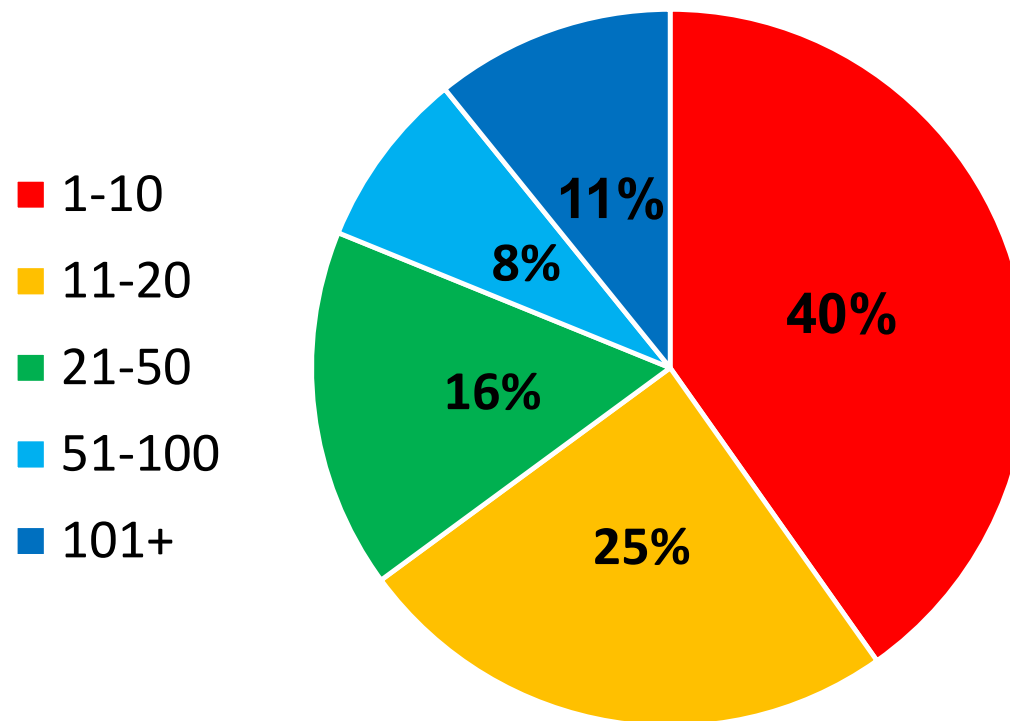
50% of organisations involved 50 volunteers or fewer

How Organisations Currently Involve Volunteers?

- 92% of organisations involved volunteers in **ongoing roles** performed regularly (e.g., weekly, fortnightly)
- 63% engaged volunteers **episodically**
- 28% of organisations provided **micro-volunteering** opportunities
- 80% indicated their volunteers volunteered **in person** for the organisation
- 68% also had volunteers representing them out in the **field/community**
- 39% of organisations involved their volunteers **remotely over the Internet**

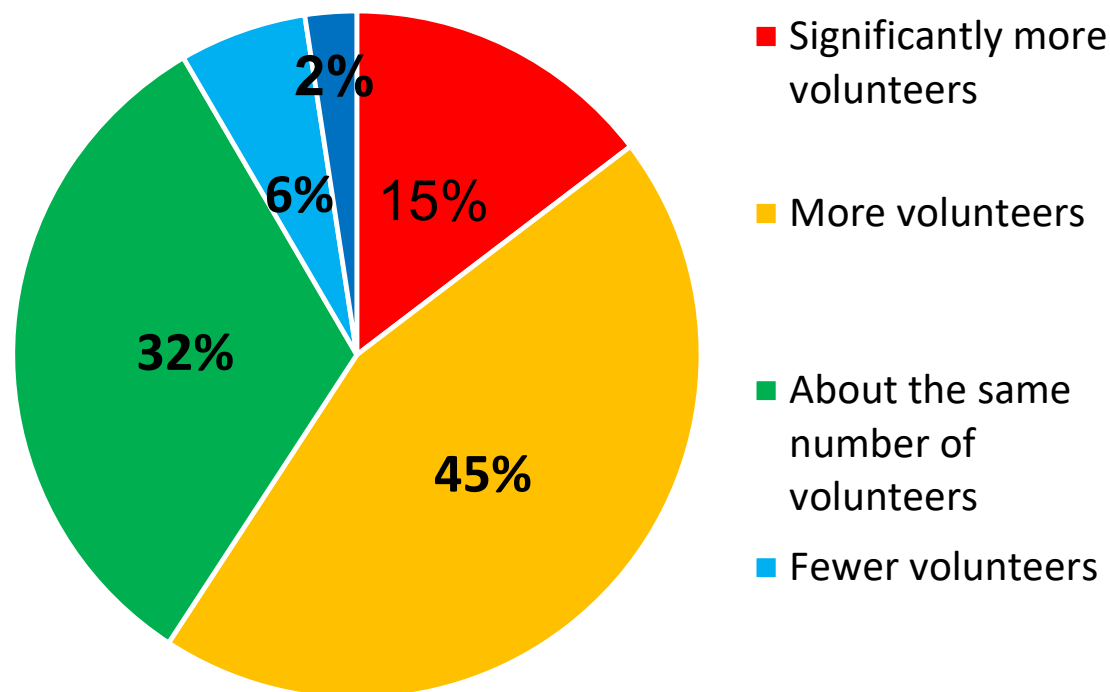
National Demand for Volunteers - Now

Immediate Term



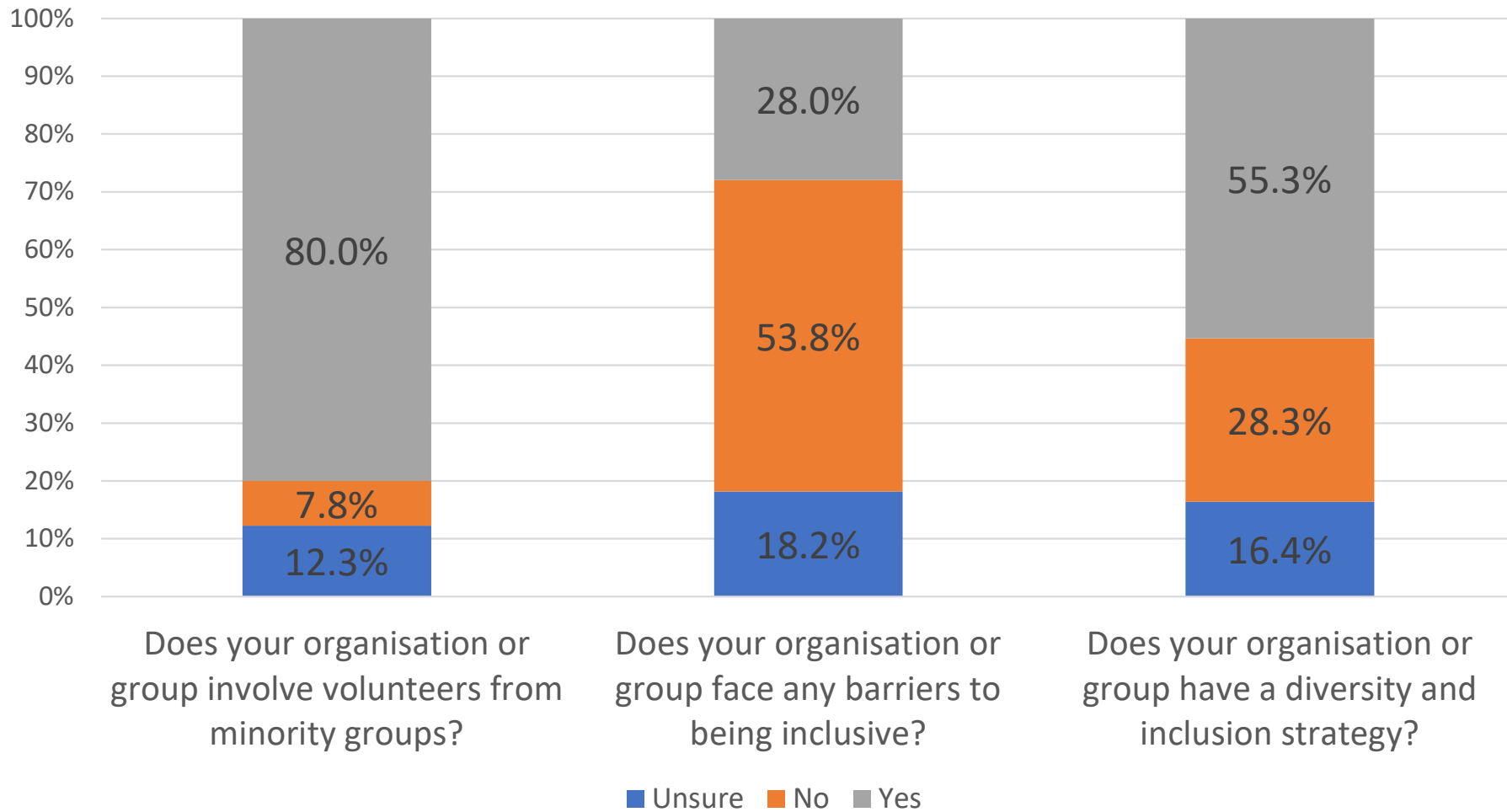
83% of organisations surveyed need more volunteers in the immediate term

Future Demand for Volunteers – Next 5 Years



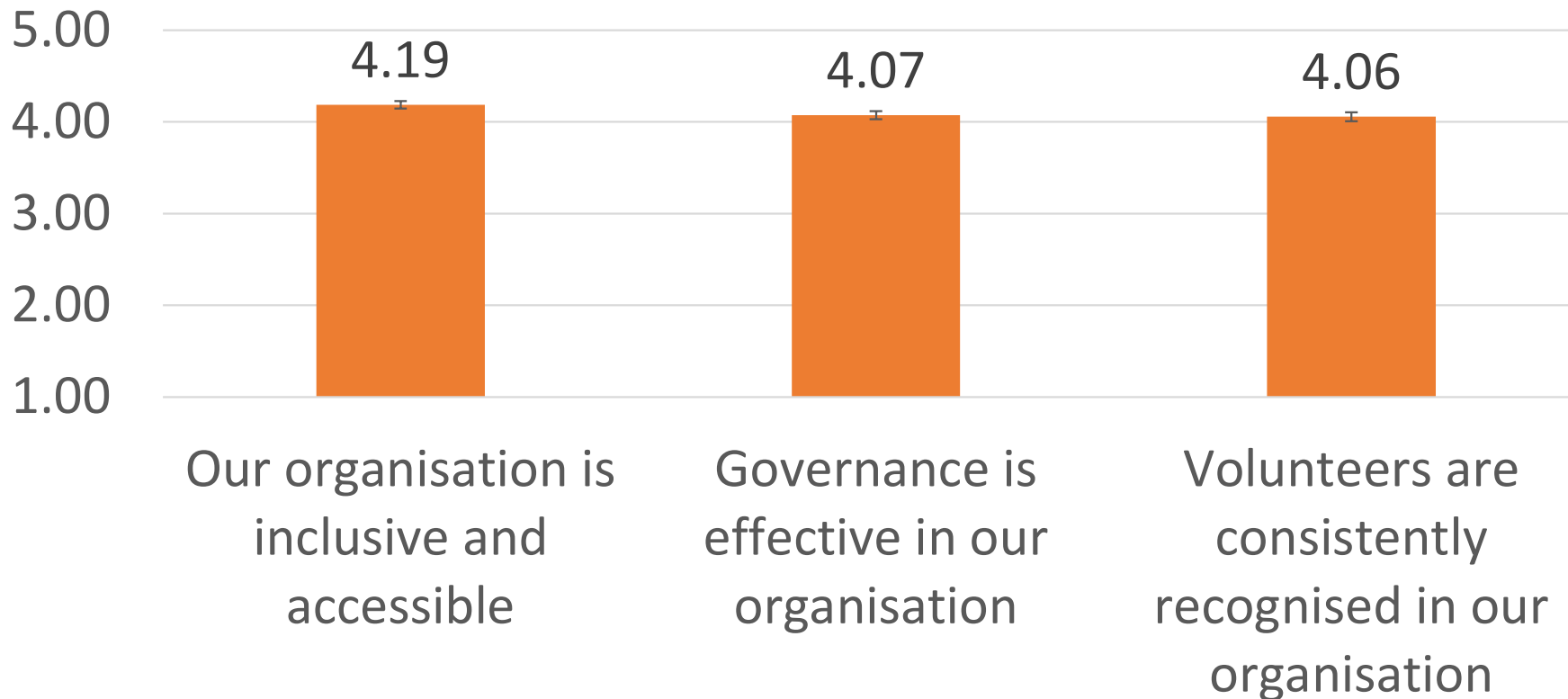
5 years into the future, 60% said their organisation would need more volunteers

Diversity and Inclusion - National



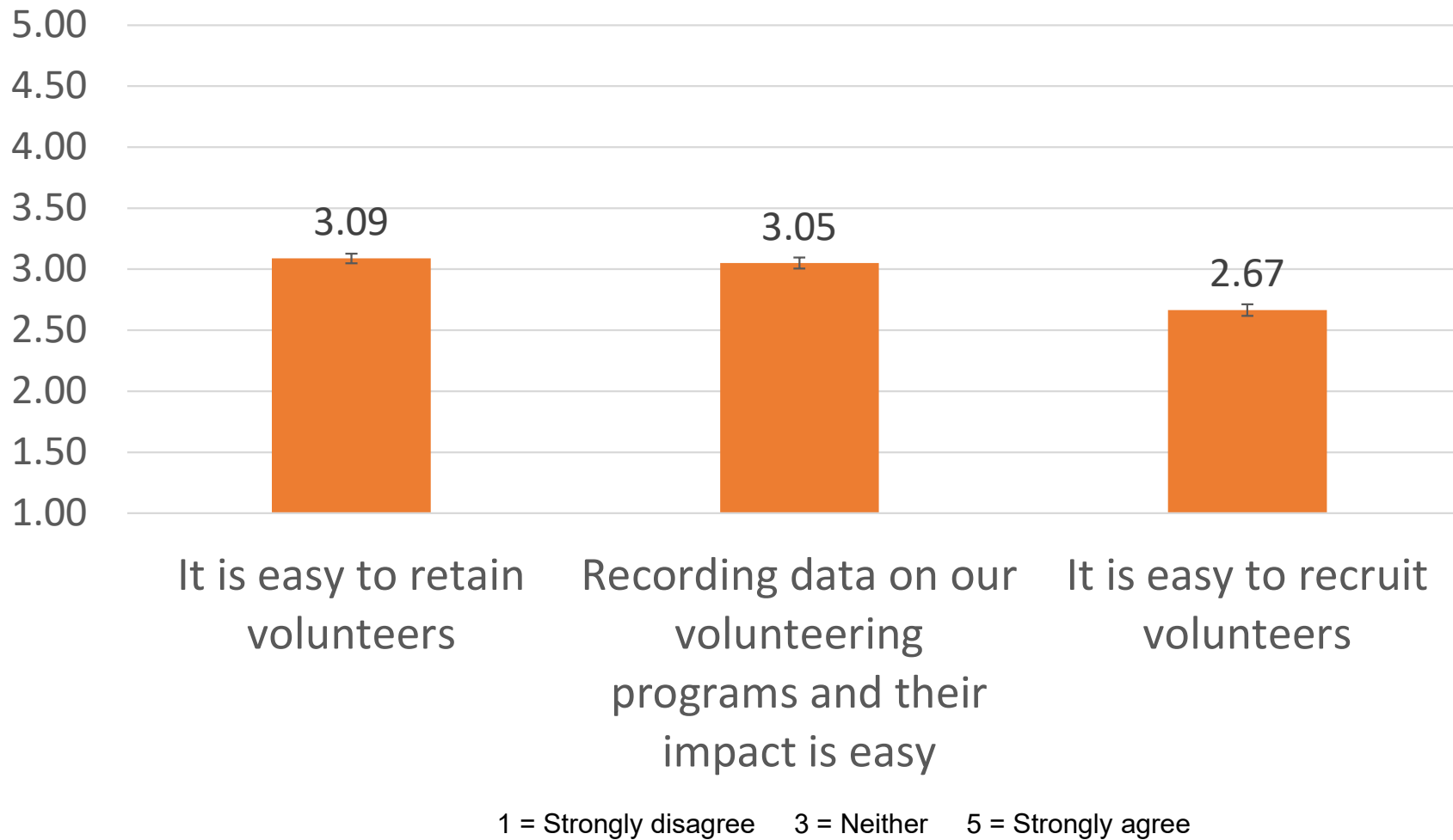
Circumstances, Challenges and Changes

Top 3 Nationally - Going Well

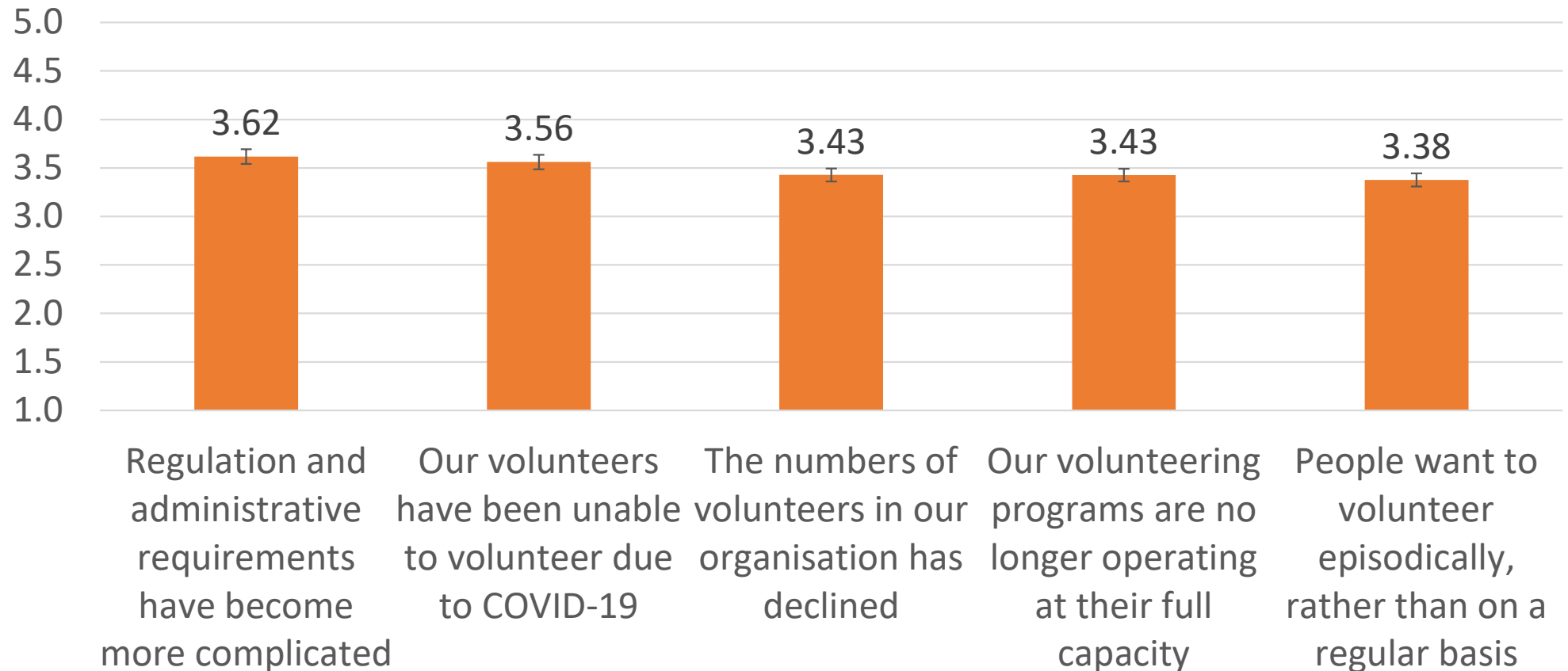


1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither 5 = Strongly agree

Nationally - Could Be Better

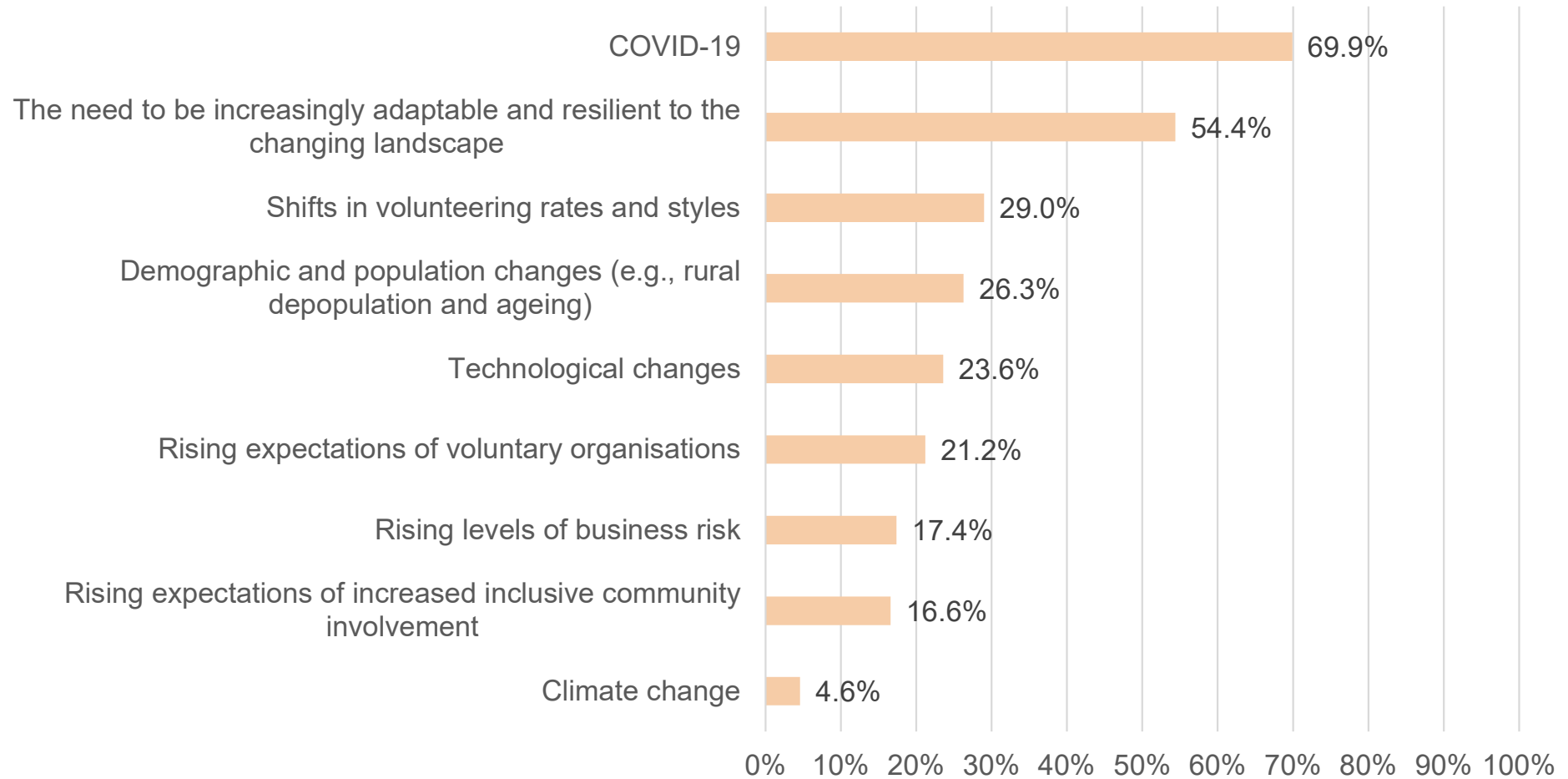


Top 5 Changes in the Last 3 Years



1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither 5 = Strongly agree

Drivers of Change



Organisational Perspective: Key Takeaways

- At the time of the survey (mid 2022), organisations were still in COVID-recovery mode
- There is a disconnect with the level of commitment that volunteers prefer as compared to the commitment that organisations require
- Organisations are diversifying their volunteering cohorts (minority groups, employee volunteers) but there are barriers to involvement
- Recruitment and retention remain significant concerns for organisations **for now and into the future**, irrespective of organisational size and geographical location (some sectoral differences noted)

Implications

Government

- Sector funding and red-tape reduction are priorities
- Meaningful engagement with the sector needed

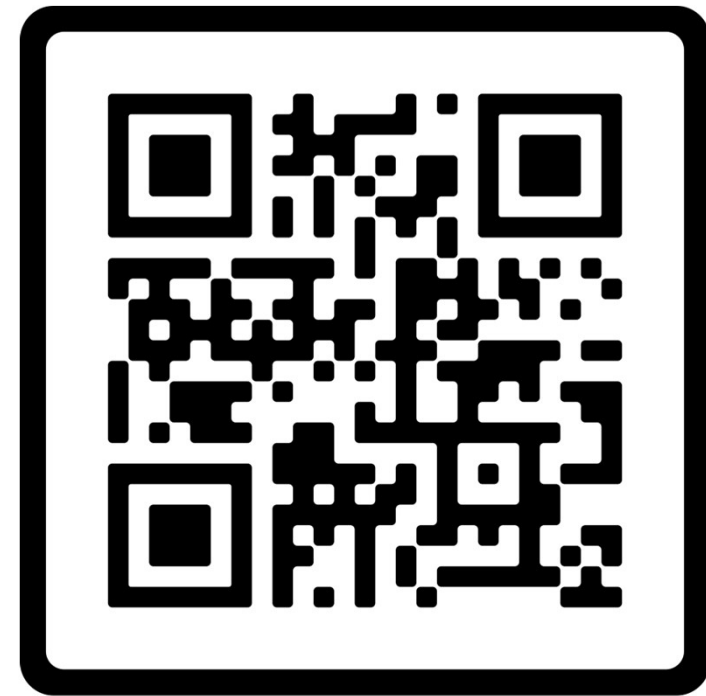
Practitioners

- Push to tailored, flexible volunteering will continue
- Strong reliance on “traditional” volunteering model – opportunities to diversify via virtual, episodic and employee volunteering and diversity and inclusion strategies

Researchers

- Opportunities to analyse the dataset lodged with the Australian Data Archive
- Need a sampling frame for volunteer-involving organisations

For the full report:
[Volunteering in
Australia Research](#)



Research And The National Volunteering Strategy:

Findings From Volunteer Involving Organisations

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