

neighbour day

EVALUATION SUMMARY

Prepared by the Australian National university in collaboration with Relationships Australia Inc. September 2020

NEIGHBOUR DAY AND COVID-19

The Neighbour Day Campaign (NDC) 2020 operated against the backdrop of COVID-19. This provided a unique insight into the effect of restrictions on respondents. During March and April, respondents reported a decreased sense of wellbeing, an increased sense of loneliness and an increased sense of neighbourhood satisfaction. These results are consistent with other nationwide data.

Although COVID-19 adversely affected many respondents, the NDC 2020 was effective in the following ways:

1 Respondents reported strong neighbourhood identification. Neighbourhood identification led to better mental wellbeing, as this was aligned with greater levels of perceived support from neighbours and reduced levels of loneliness.

Being involved in multiple social groups was also associated with mental wellbeing. This occurred in part due to greater perceived access to support from family & friends and reduced loneliness.

FEEDBACK

The Neighbour Day Campaign 2020...

Increased individuals' social capital



Respondents reported personal growth; such as better physical health, mental health and feelings of safety or support

Increased contact between neighbours

91%

Of respondents planned to have ongoing contact with their neighbours

Increased social inclusion and community wellbeing

Respondents reported improved community wellbeing; such as helping create a strong community, showing support for others, connecting with elderly / vulnerable people



METHODOLOGY

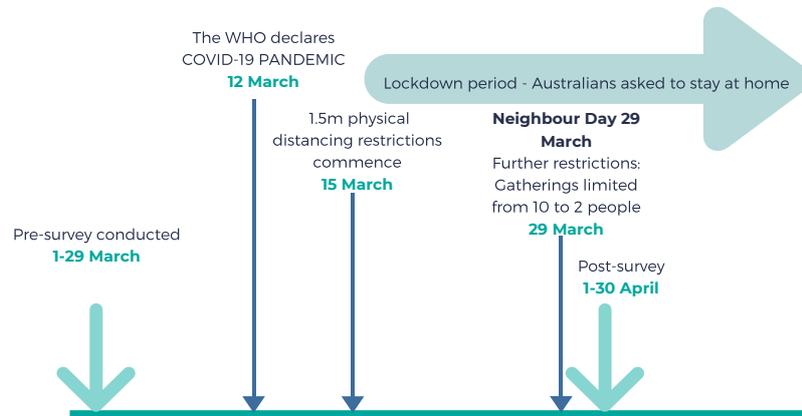


Figure 1. Timeline of NDC 2020 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

TIMEPOINT 1

March 1 - 29 2020
235 Responses

TIMEPOINT 2

April 1 - 30 2020
171 Responses

RECOMMENDATIONS

for the future

1 Continue to promote the importance of social connection with neighbours throughout the year.

2 Continue to promote creative ways to connect with neighbours until the end of the pandemic.

3 Increase awareness of the importance of group-based connection for mental wellbeing. Positive sources of group connection include, but are not limited to, neighbourhood groups.