

# Mother and Child 2020 Newsletter

Dear MC2020 participants,

We are so grateful to all the mothers who are in the MC2020 study! This time last year we sent you a newsletter to let you know about the study. Now we are excited to send you an update and some early results.

If you have not done your questionnaires, please take the time to do so! We will be closing the questionnaires in June. **You will not be able to finish the Bushfire, COVID-19 or pregnancy questionnaires after August 31.** If you have any trouble, please contact us at [mc2020study@anu.edu.au](mailto:mc2020study@anu.edu.au)!



To date MC2020 has almost 1000 participants!

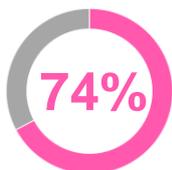


988 women have completed the “bushfire questionnaire”. The green word cloud shows a visual summary of responses describing experiences during the bushfires. We can see mothers had concerns about smoke, stress and how these would impact their pregnancy and baby

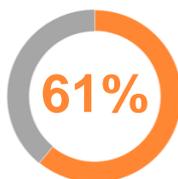
870 women have completed the “COVID-19 questionnaire”. The blue word cloud shows a visual summary of responses describing experiences during COVID-19. We can see an emphasis on mental health and well-being and a need for new mothers to be socially connected.



700 women have finished the “pregnancy questionnaire”. Many mothers experienced a ‘silver lining’ during COVID-19 of having more time to spend with baby.



Of mothers were able to spend more time with their baby because of COVID-19 restrictions



Of participants partners were able to spend more time with their baby because of COVID-19 restrictions



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**The next MC2020 survey is coming out soon!** This survey will ask you about the 18 months after bushfires and 12 months into the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey will focus on general health and wellbeing of mothers and their families now. Keep an eye on your inboxes for the survey link!

**MC2020 interview opportunities** will open soon too! We are looking forward to hearing more details about your pregnancy and child. Please keep an eye out for more information.

MC2020 would like to acknowledge recent funding received from the **Finley River Foundation**, and a gifted donation from the **ANU's Fiji Alumni group**. Funding that we receive goes towards paying for direct research costs, including dedicated staff essential to administration of the study.



Thank you and Farewell to our amazing MC2020 project officer Dr Jane Reid. Jane has been an amazing support and driver of the MC2020 project. Jane received a fantastic new job opportunity at a national level. We wish Jane all the best in her new and exciting role! Ms Fiona Quinlan will be managing the [mc2020study@anu.edu.au](mailto:mc2020study@anu.edu.au) email account for anyone who gets in touch.



Many of the MC2020 study team, like you, are volunteers donating their time and expertise. We hope to inform, protect, and provide high quality care for pregnant women and young mothers in times of crisis. The team thank you for joining MC2020, together we can find answers.



Until next time,  
MC2020 team