

# ACT Government

## Kangaroo Management – Community Research

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Date: April 2019



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# Background



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# Background & Methodology

## Why?

- Determine the community's level of satisfaction with the ACT Government's current management of kangaroos
- Understand the community's awareness of kangaroos in the ACT and the importance of having them in the Canberra Nature Park
- Identify the community's level of agreement and support for culling of kangaroos
- Identify and assess motor vehicle and kangaroo collisions in the ACT

## How?

- Telephone survey (landline and mobile) to N=602 respondents
- 97 acquired through number harvesting
- We use a 5 point scale (e.g. 1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied)
- Greatest margin of error +/- 4.0%

## When?

- Implementation 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Please see the Appendix for detailed background & methodology



# Sample Profile

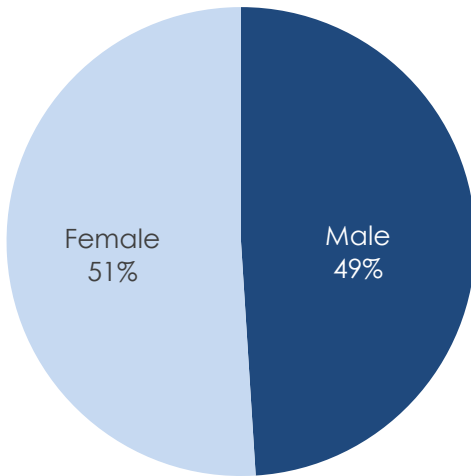


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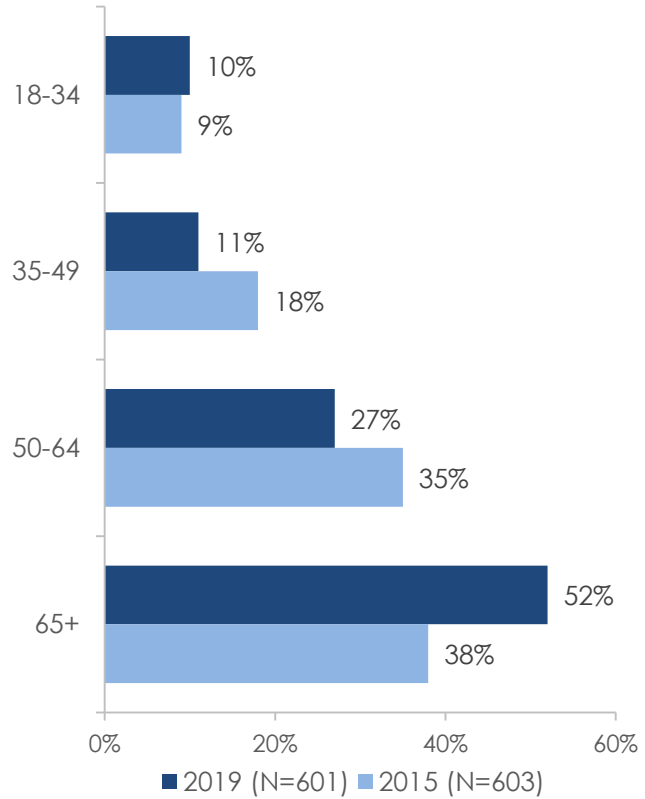
# Sample Profile

Q15. Gender.



	2019 N=602	2015 N=603
Male	49%	42%
Female	51%	58%

Q14. Please stop me when I read out your age group.



# Key Findings



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# Key Findings

- 55% satisfied/very satisfied with ACT Government's current management of kangaroos
- 75% believe it is important/very important to have kangaroos in the Canberra Nature Park
- 79% believe the killing of kangaroos is appropriate under certain circumstances (significantly less than in 2015)
- 67% believe the culling of kangaroos is humane/very humane compared to other methods
- 72% are supportive of kangaroo culling for the conservation of grassland and woodland animals
- 80% believe it is important/very important to develop and apply fertility control methods to control the breeding of kangaroos in Canberra
- 12% have experienced a collision with a kangaroo in the last 3 years





# Results



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# Kangaroos in the ACT



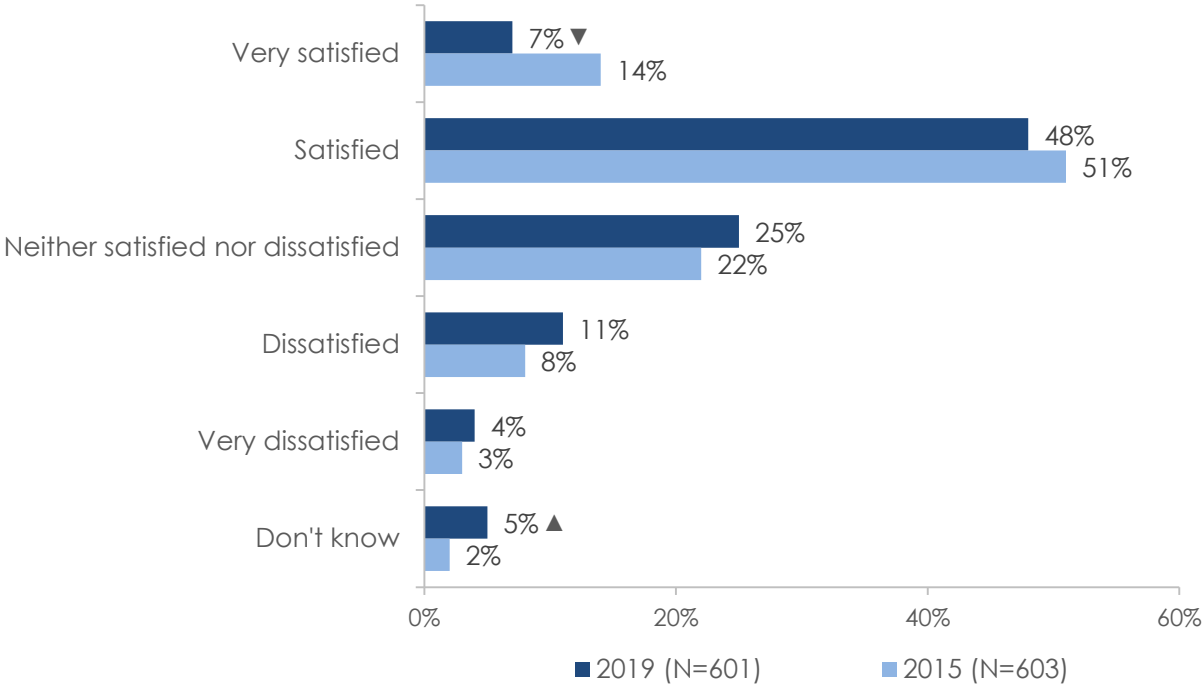
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# Satisfaction with the ACT Government's Current Management of Kangaroos


Q13. How satisfied are you with the ACT Government's current management of kangaroos?

	2019	2015	2012
Mean rating	3.45▼	3.68	3.43



'Don't know' responses have not been included in the mean  
 Mean base: 2019 N=568, 2015 N=593, 2012 N=580

Scale: 1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied  
 ▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level of satisfaction (by year)



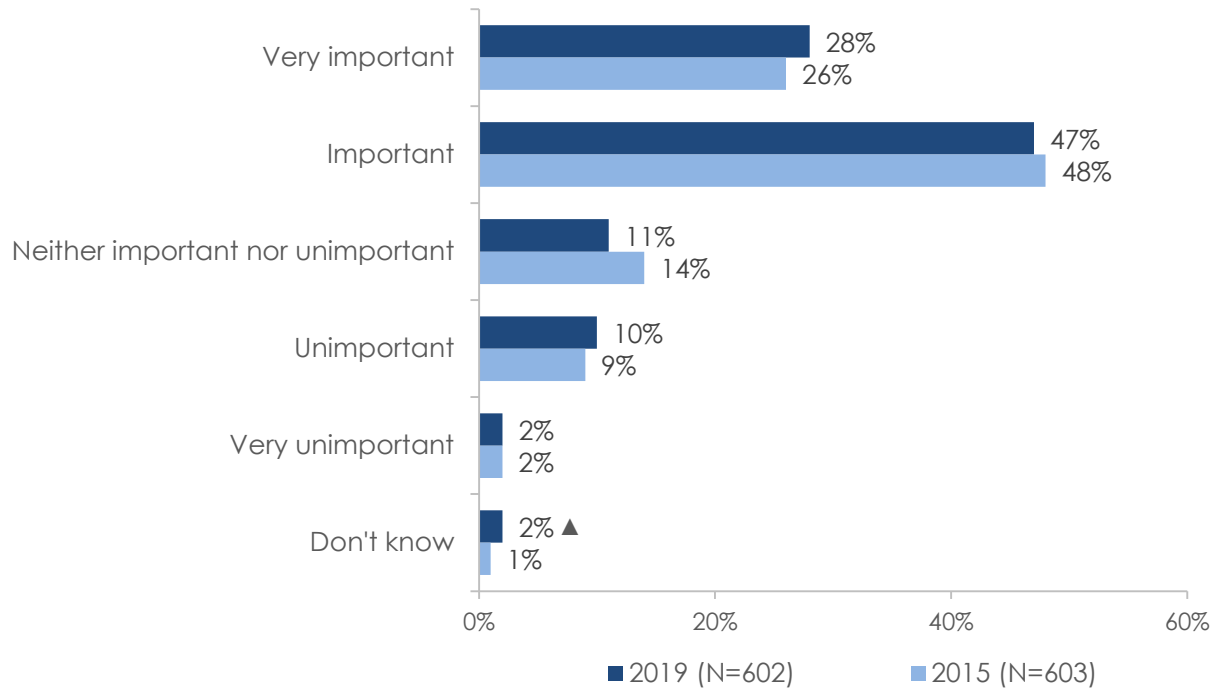
**Satisfaction levels with the ACT Government's current management of kangaroos has significantly decreased from 2015, softening to levels seen in 2012.**

**55% of residents committed to the top 2 box, stating they are satisfied/very satisfied with the current management.**

# Importance of Having Kangaroos in Canberra Nature Park

Q2. Canberra Nature Park is made up of the bush and grassland nature reserves at the edges of our suburbs. How important is it to have kangaroos in Canberra Nature Park?

	2019	2015
Mean rating	3.90	3.87



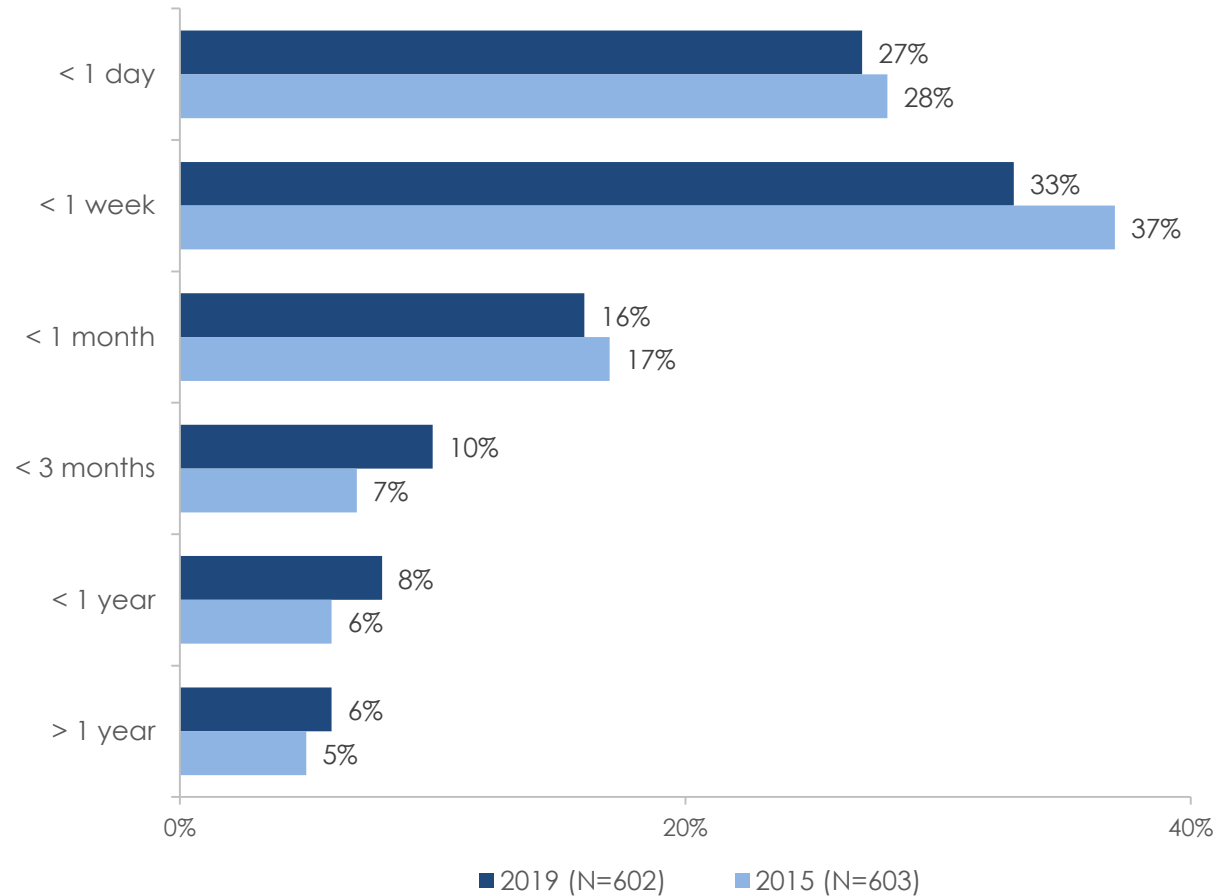
'Don't know' responses have not been included in the mean  
Mean base: 2019 N=589, 2015 N=599

Scale: 1 = very unimportant, 5 = very important  
▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level of importance (by year)

**75% of residents believe it is important/very important to have kangaroos in the Canberra Nature Park, on par with results from 2015.**

# Last Sighting of a Kangaroo in the ACT

Q1. How long is it since you last saw a kangaroo in the ACT?

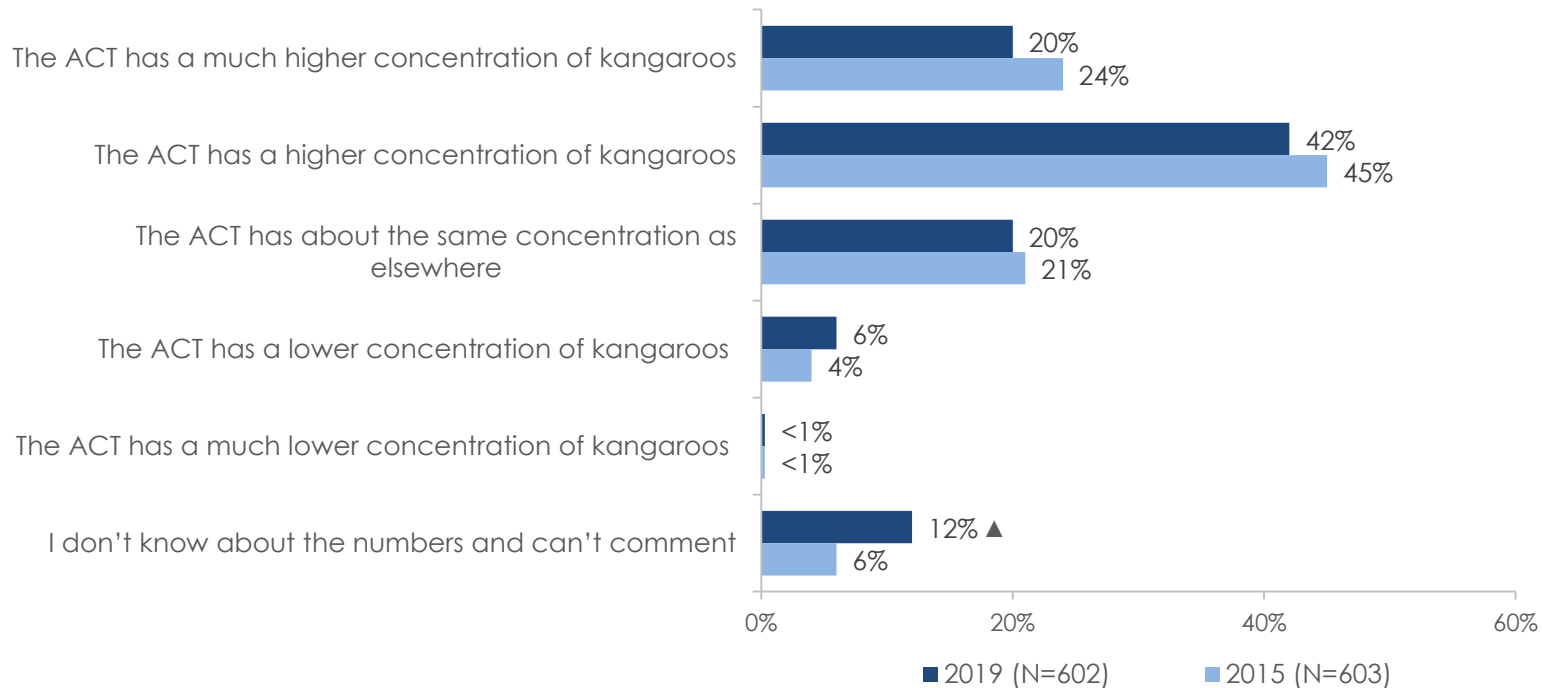


**76% of residents stated they last saw a kangaroo in the ACT in the last month, with 27% stating they had seen one in the last 24 hours.**

# Concentration of Kangaroos in the ACT

Q3. Compared to Australia generally, which of the following would best describe the concentration of kangaroos in the ACT?

	2019	2015	2012
Mean rating	3.86	3.94	3.38



'Don't know' responses have not been included in the mean  
Mean base: 2019 N=531, 2015 N=565, 2012 N=503

Scale: 1 = much lower concentration, 5 = much higher concentration  
▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower percentage (by group)

**62% of residents believe the ACT has a higher/much higher concentration of kangaroos compared to Australia, generally.**

# Kangaroo Culling

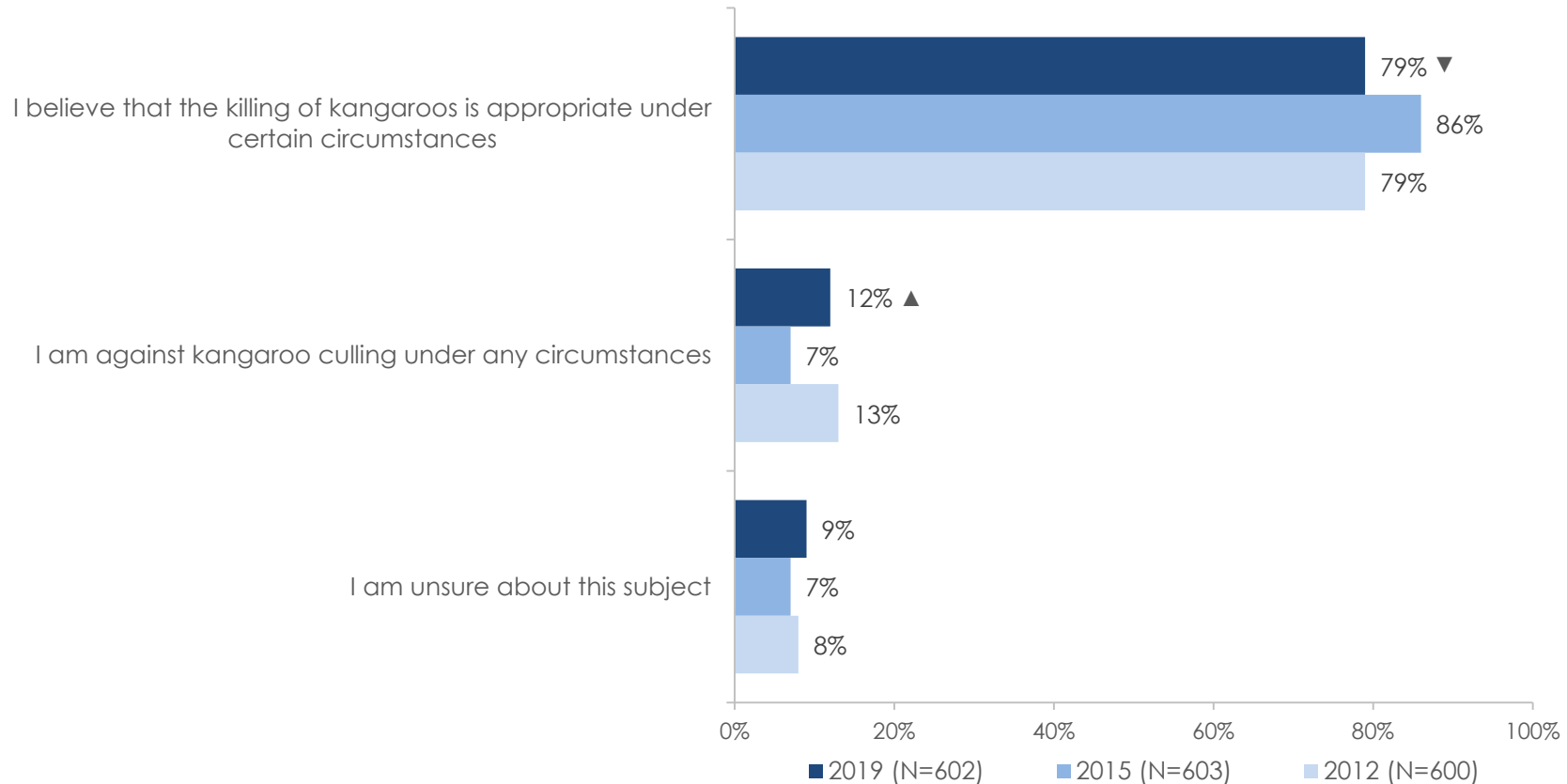


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# Opinion on Kangaroo Culling

Q4. Which of the following statements best describes your opinion with regards to kangaroo culling?



▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower percentage (by year)

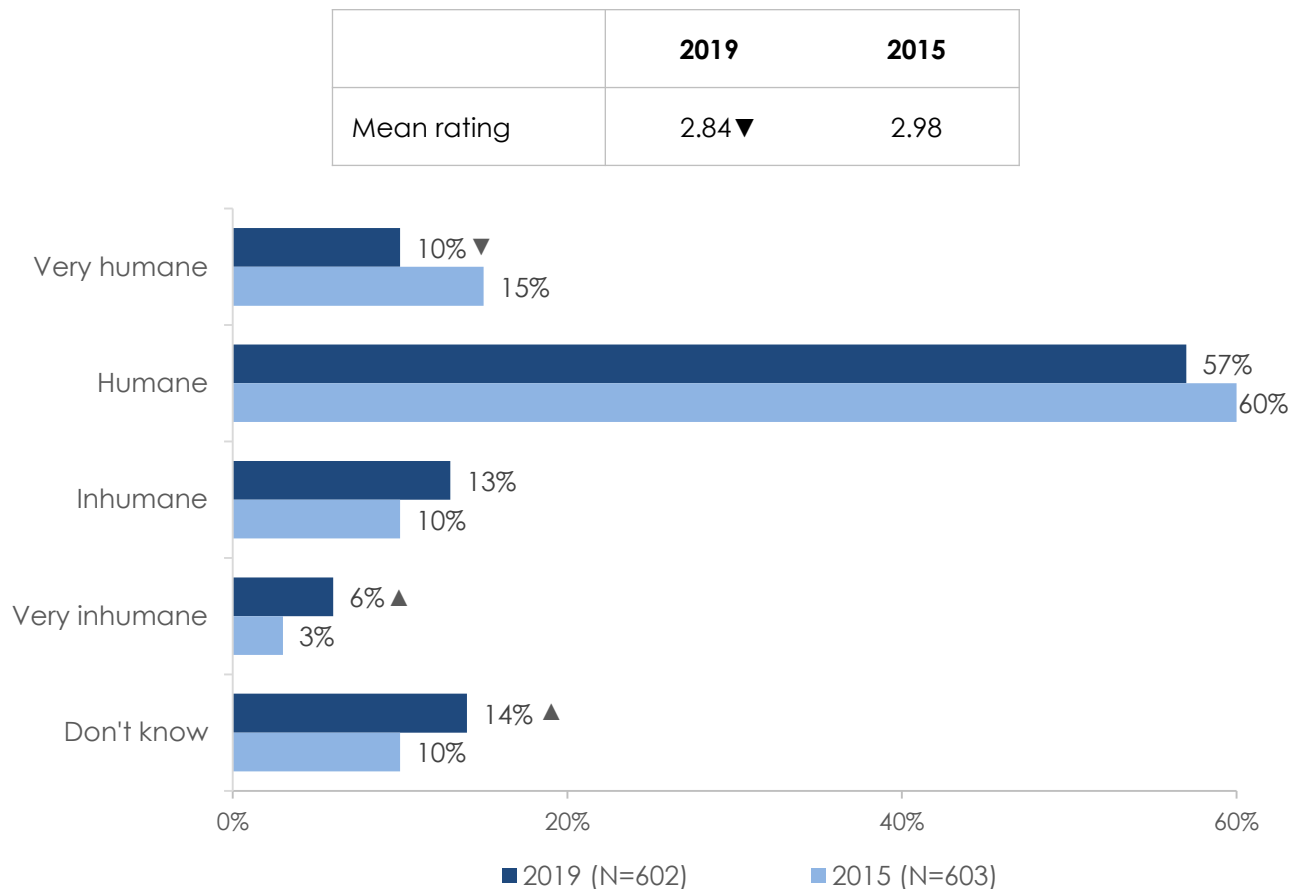
**79% believe culling is appropriate, a significantly smaller proportion compared to 2015, however remaining the strongest opinion.**

**On the other hand, significantly more residents in 2019 stated they are against kangaroo culling under any circumstances (12% cf. 7%).**



# How Humane the Culling of Kangaroos Is

Q5. In comparison to other methods by which humans control wild animals, how humane is the culling of kangaroos?



'Don't know' responses have not been included in the mean  
Mean base: 2019 N=518, 2015 N=540

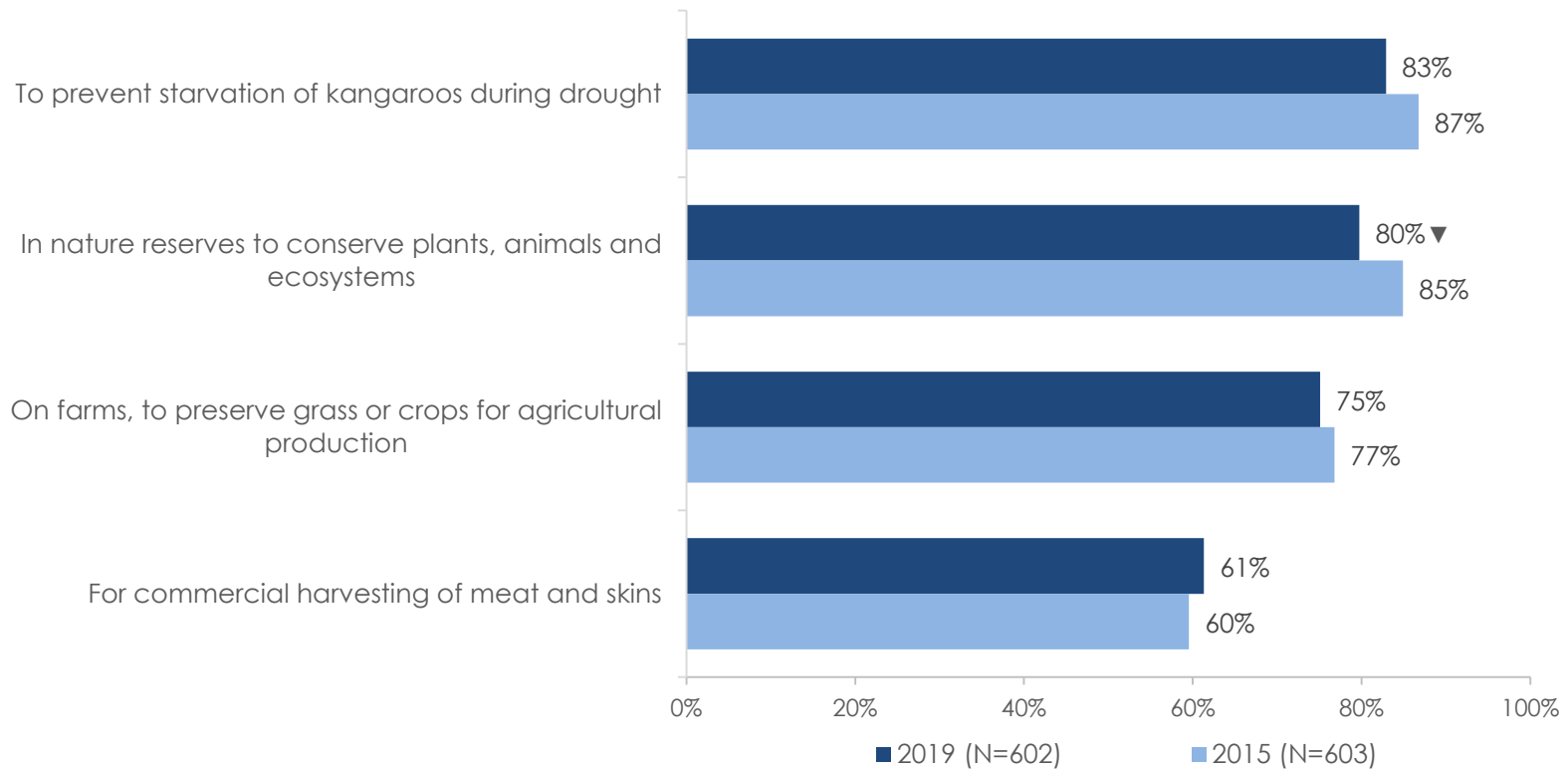
Scale: 1 = very inhumane, 4 = very humane  
▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower percentage (by year)

Although results have significantly decreased from 2015, 67% still committed to the top 2 box, stating that the culling of kangaroos is humane/very humane compared to other methods.

# Agreement with Reasons for Culling Kangaroos

Q6. For which of the following reasons would you agree with the culling of kangaroos?

Results of those selecting 'yes' only



Please see the Appendix for detailed 2019 results

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower percentage (by year)

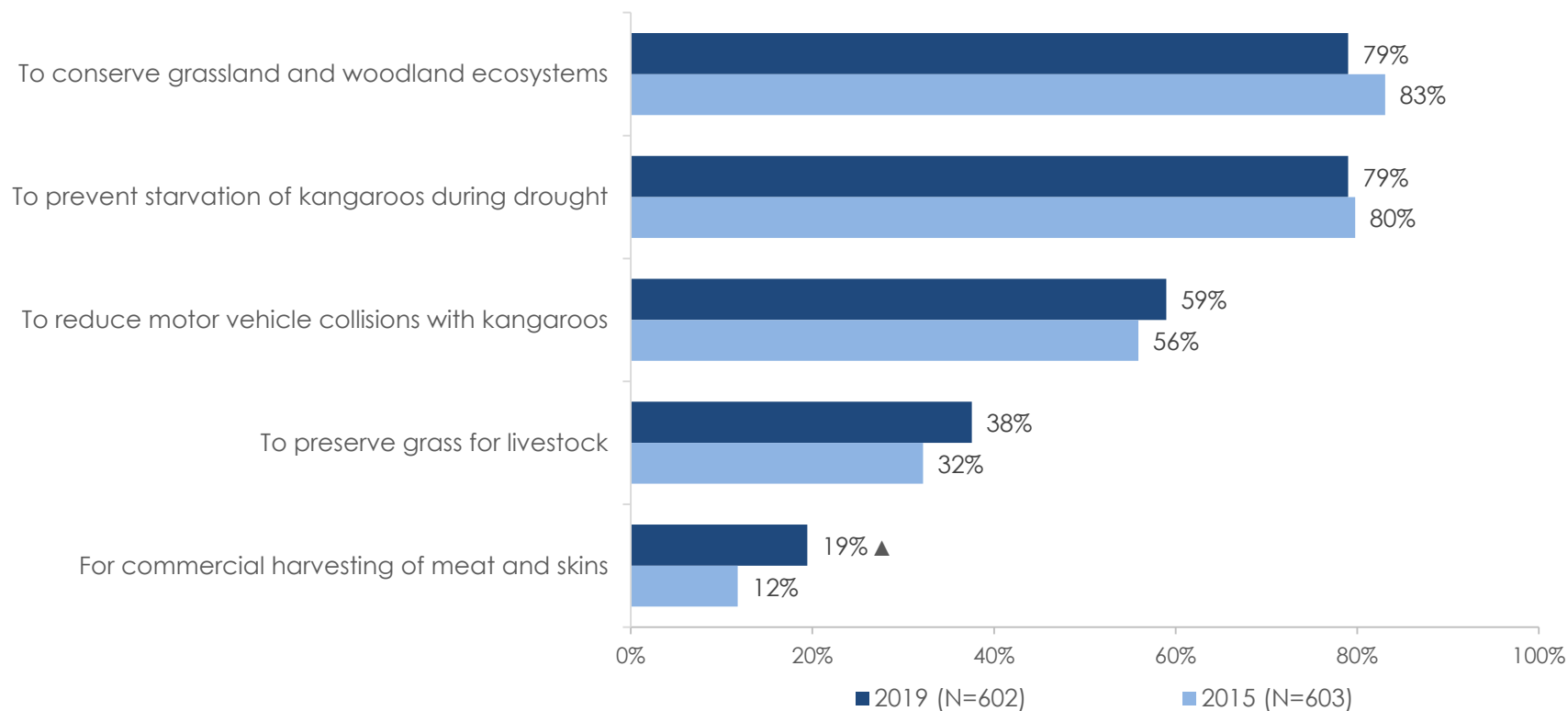
**Once again, agreement was greatest for 'to prevent starvation of kangaroos during drought', with 83% in agreement.**

**Although results remain high, compared to 2015, significantly fewer residents agree with the culling of kangaroos 'in nature reserves to conserve plants, animals and ecosystems'.**

# Reasons for Culling in Nature Reserves

Q7. Kangaroos have been culled in ACT nature reserves since 2009. For which of the following reasons is the culling in nature reserves carried out?

Results of those selecting 'yes' only



Please see the Appendix for detailed 2019 results

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower percentage (by year)

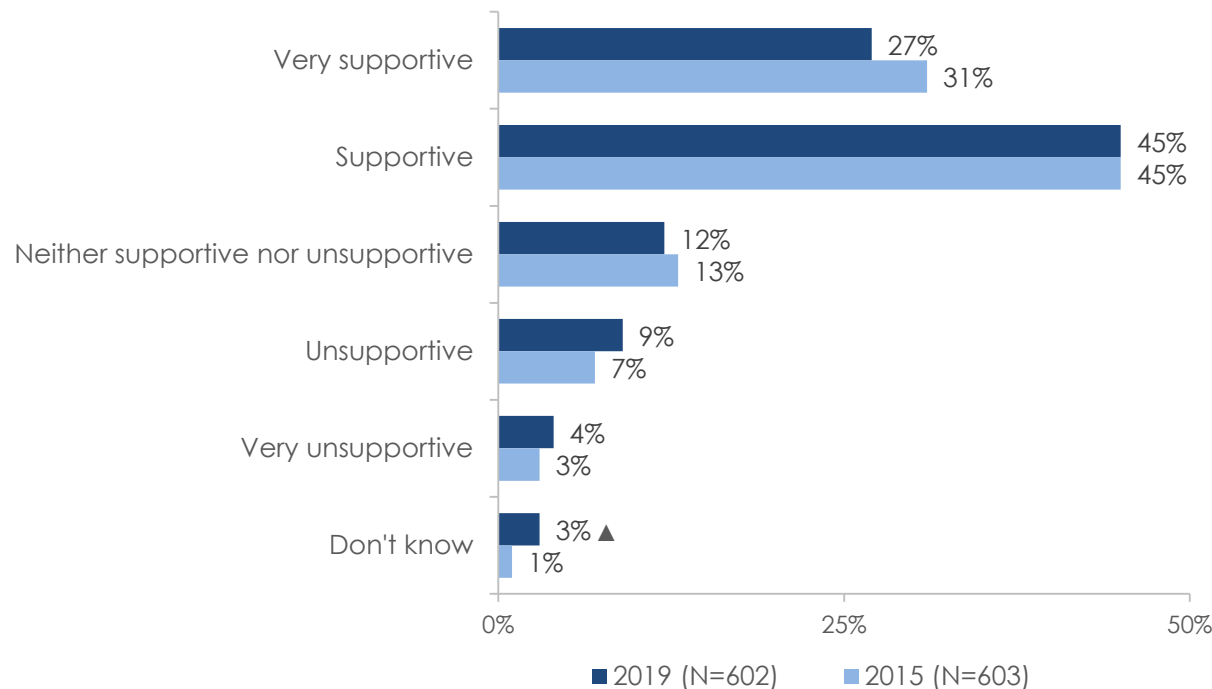
**79% equally agree that culling is carried out 'to conserve grassland and woodland ecosystems' and 'to prevent starvation of kangaroos during drought'.**

**In 2019, significantly more residents believe the culling in nature reserves is 'for commercial harvesting of meat and skins'.**

# Culling for Conservation of Grassland and Woodland Animals

Q8. For ten years, kangaroos have been culled in ACT nature reserves for the conservation of grassland and woodland animals. Can you please rate how supportive or unsupportive you are of kangaroo culling for conservation of these animals?

	2019	2015	2012
Mean rating	3.85	3.96	3.74



'Don't know' responses have not been included in the mean  
Mean base: 2019 N=585, 2015 N=597, 2012 N=586

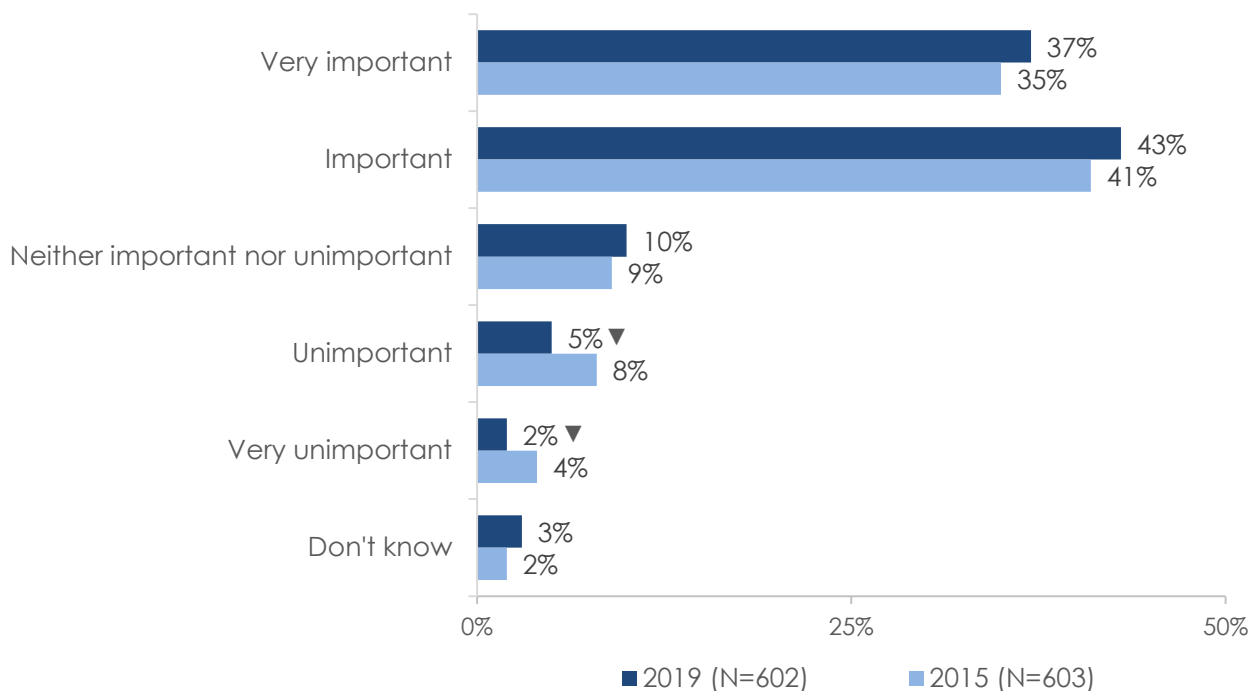
Scale: 1 = very unsupportive, 5 = very supportive  
▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower percentage (by year)

**72% of residents are supportive of the culling of kangaroos for the conservation of grassland and woodland animals. Whilst remaining moderately high, support has softened marginally in 2019.**

# Importance of Developing and Applying Fertility Controls to Control Breeding

Q9. How important is it to develop and apply fertility control methods to control the breeding of kangaroos in Canberra?

	2019	2015
Mean rating	4.13▲	3.97



'Don't know' responses have not been included in the mean  
 Mean base: 2019 N=582, 2015 N=593

Scale: 1 = very unimportant, 5 = very important  
 ▲▼ = A significantly higher/lower level of importance (by year)



**Significantly more residents in 2019 believe it is important to develop and apply fertility control methods, with the majority (80%) stating this is important/very important to apply this method.**

# Motor Vehicle Collisions with Kangaroos on Roads

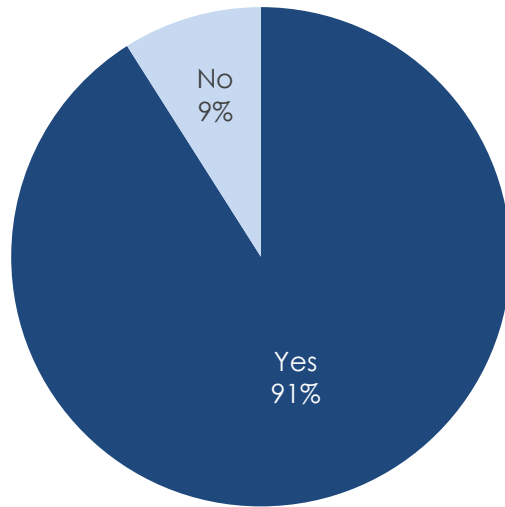


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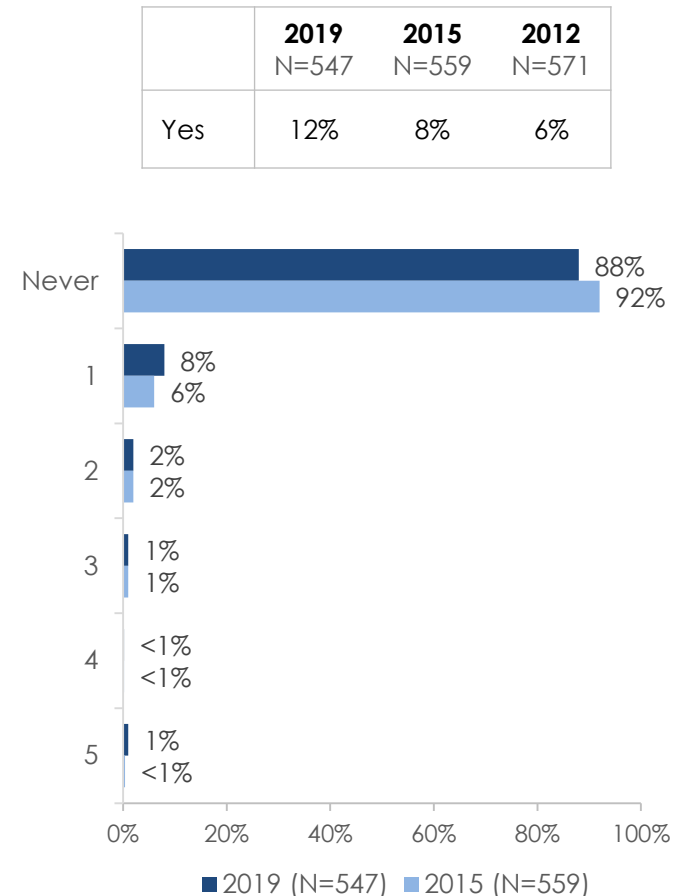
# Collisions Involving Kangaroos on Roads in the ACT

Q10. Have you held an ACT licence to drive a motor vehicle for the last three years?



	2019 N=602	2015 N=603	2012 N=600
Yes	91%	93%	95%
No	9%	7%	5%

Q11. In the last three years how many times were you driving a car in the ACT when it was in a motor vehicle collision involving a kangaroo?



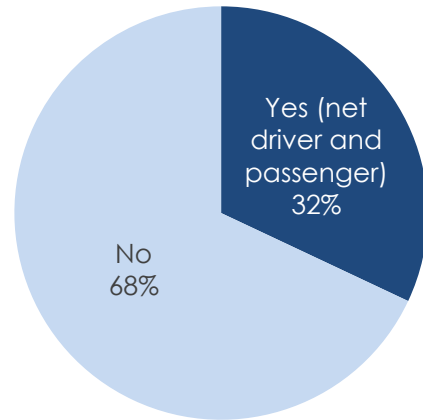
**91% of residents interviewed have held an ACT motor vehicle licence for the last 3 years. Of those that have held a licence, 12% have experienced a collision at least once in the last three years.**

# Collisions Involving Kangaroos on Roads in the ACT

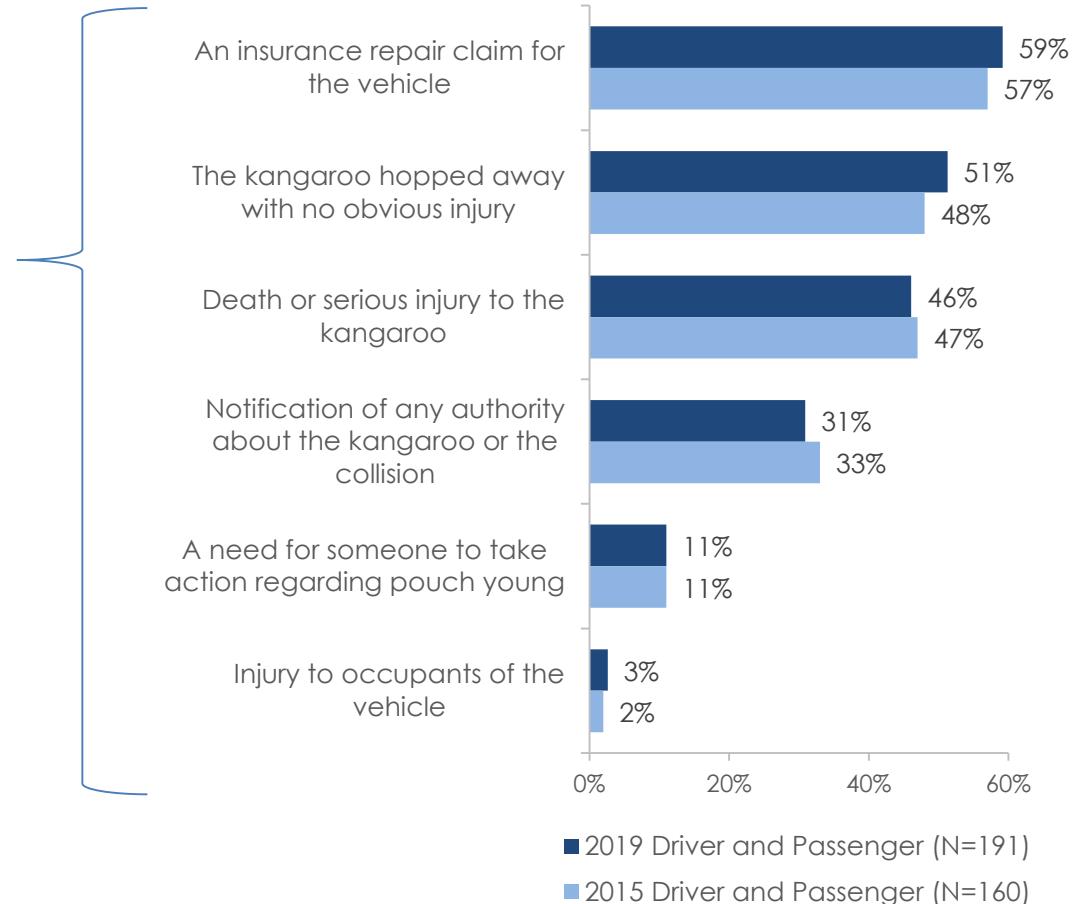
Q12a. Have you ever been involved in a motor vehicle collision with a kangaroo in the ACT?

Q12b. Have you ever been involved in a motor vehicle collision with a kangaroo in the ACT that resulted in any of the following?

Both drivers and/or passengers 'ever' involved in a collision with a kangaroo



	2019 N=602	2015 N=603
Yes – as a driver	26%	21%
Yes – as a passenger	9%	7%
No	68%	73%



Results exceed 100% as respondents could select both driver and passenger

**32% indicated they have been a driver and/or a passenger of a vehicle that has had a collision with a kangaroo in the ACT.**

**Of those that were both a driver and/or passenger, 59% stated the collision resulted in an insurance repair claim and 51% stated the kangaroo hopped away with no obvious injury.**

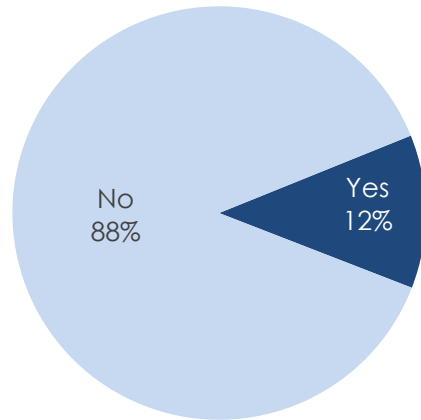


# Collisions Involving Kangaroos on Roads in the ACT

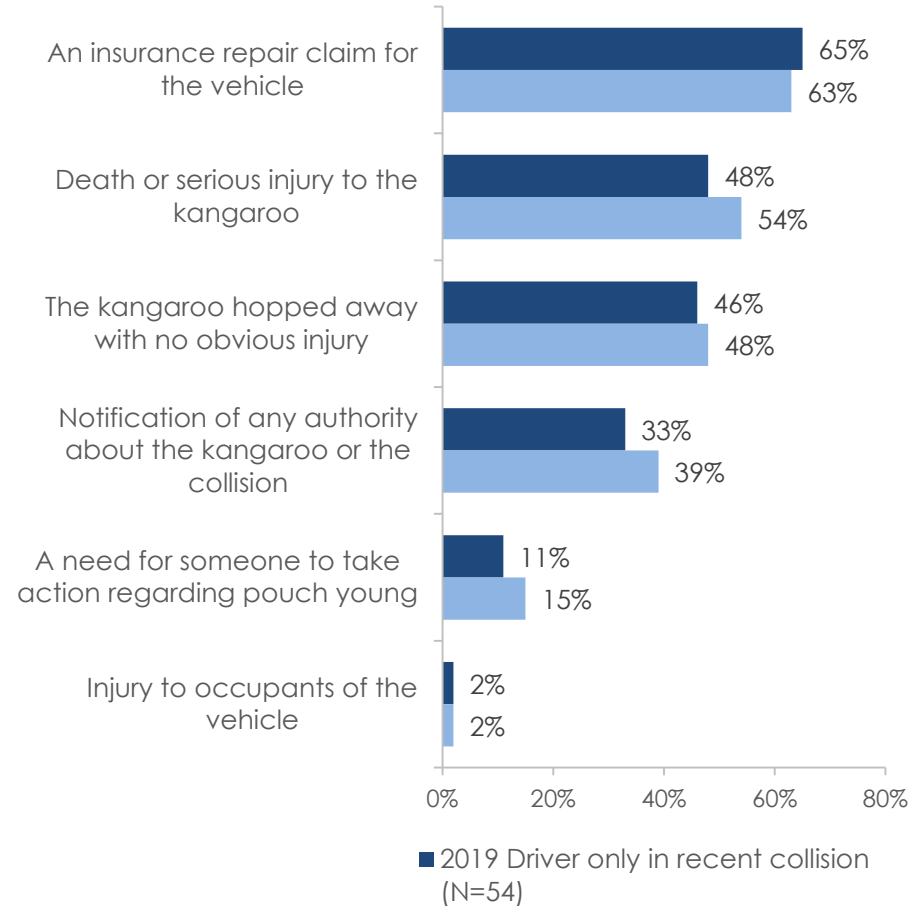
Q11. In the last three years how many times were you driving a car in the ACT when it was in a motor vehicle collision involving a kangaroo?

Q12b. Have you ever been involved in a motor vehicle collision with a kangaroo in the ACT that resulted in any of the following?

## Drivers involved in a collision with a kangaroo in the last 3 years



Base: N = 547



Of those that were drivers only, and had been in a collision in the last 3 years (Q11), 65% stated the collision resulted in an insurance repair claim and just under half (48%) stated it resulted in death or serious injury to the kangaroo.

# Appendix



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# Background & Methodology

## Data collection

Micromex Research, together with the ACT Government, updated the 2015 questionnaire.

## Data collection period

Telephone interviewing (CATI) was conducted during period 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

## Sample

N=602 interviews were conducted. A sample size of 602 provides a maximum sampling error of plus or minus 4.0% at 95% confidence. This means that if the survey was replicated with a new universe of N=602 residents, that 19 times out of 20 we would expect to see the same results, i.e. +/- 4.0%.

For the survey under discussion the greatest margin of error is 4.0%. This mean for example, that an answer 'yes' (50%) to a question could vary from 46% to 54%.

## Interviewing

505 of the 602 of respondents were selected by means of a computer based random selection process using the electronic White Pages.

In addition, 97 respondents were recruited face-to-face, this was conducted at a number of areas around the ACT Government local area, i.e. Canberra Centre, Woden Westfield/Coles and Belconnen Westfield/bus stop.

## Data analysis

The data within this report was analysed using Q Professional.

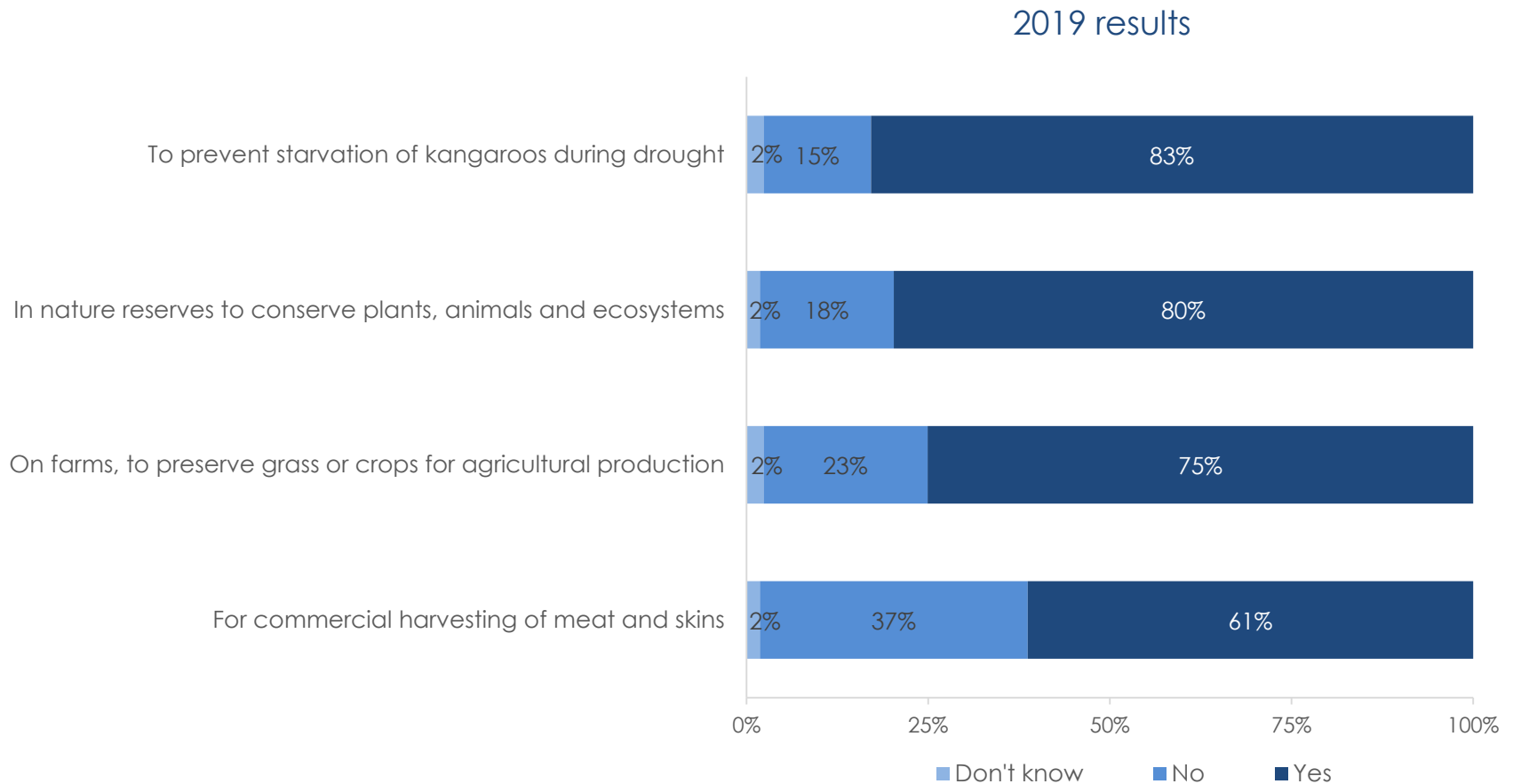
## Percentages

All percentages are calculated to the nearest whole number and therefore the total may not exactly equal 100%.



# Agreement with Reasons for Culling Kangaroos

Q6. For which of the following reasons would you agree with the culling of kangaroos?

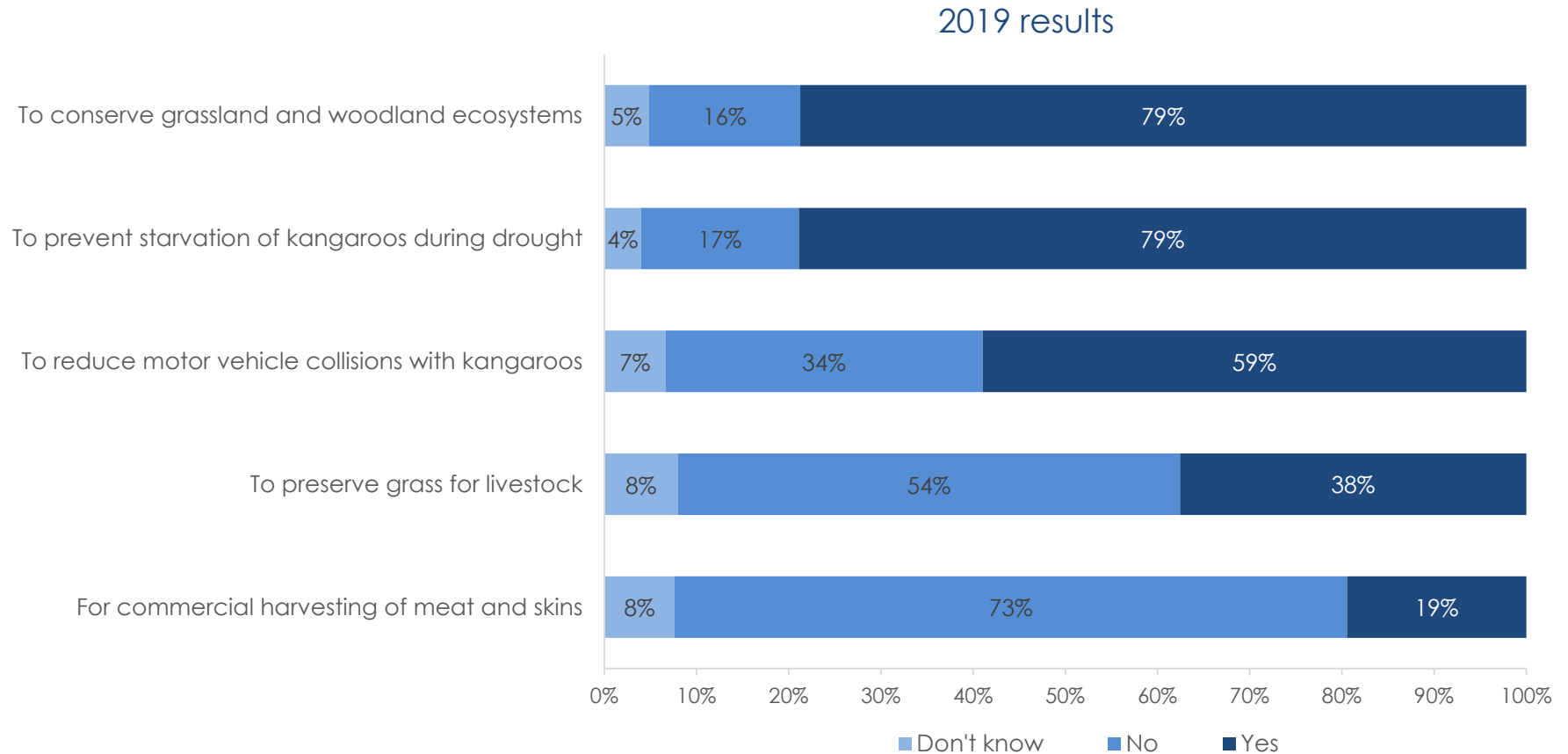


Base: N = 602



# Reasons for Culling in Nature Reserves

Q7. Kangaroos have been culled in ACT nature reserves since 2009. For which of the following reasons is the culling in nature reserves carried out?



Base: N = 602



# Questionnaire



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**Attitudes and opinions of ACT residents regarding kangaroos and their management**  
**April 2019**

**Q1. How long is it since you last saw a kangaroo in the ACT? Prompt**

- ☐ < 1 day
- ☐ < 1 week
- ☐ < 1 month
- ☐ < 3 months
- ☐ < 1 year
- ☐ > 1 year

**Q2. Canberra Nature Park is made up of the bush and grassland nature reserves at the edges of our suburbs. How important is it to have kangaroos in Canberra Nature Park? Prompt**

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Neither important nor unimportant
- ☐ Unimportant
- ☐ Very unimportant
- ☐ Don't know

**Q3. Compared to Australia generally, which of the following would best describe the concentration of kangaroos in the ACT? Prompt**

- ☐ The ACT has a much higher concentration of kangaroos
- ☐ The ACT has a higher concentration of kangaroos
- ☐ The ACT has about the same concentration as elsewhere
- ☐ The ACT has a lower concentration of kangaroos
- ☐ The ACT has a much lower concentration of kangaroos
- ☐ I don't know about the numbers and can't comment

**Q4. Which of the following statements best describes your opinion with regards to kangaroo culling? Prompt**

- ☐ I am against kangaroo culling under any circumstances
- ☐ I believe that the killing of kangaroos is appropriate under certain circumstances
- ☐ I am unsure about this subject

**Q5. In comparison to other methods by which humans control wild animals, how humane is the culling of kangaroos? Prompt**

- ☐ Very humane
- ☐ Humane
- ☐ Inhumane
- ☐ Very inhumane
- ☐ Don't know

**Q6. For which of the following reasons would you agree with the culling of kangaroos? Prompt**

	Yes	No	Don't know
On farms, to preserve grass or crops for agricultural production	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
For commercial harvesting of meat and skins	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In nature reserves to conserve plants, animals and ecosystems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To prevent starvation of kangaroos during drought	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q7. Kangaroos have been culled in ACT nature reserves since 2009. For which of the following reasons is the culling in nature reserves carried out? Prompt**

	Yes	No	Don't know
To preserve grass for livestock	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To conserve grassland and woodland ecosystems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
For commercial harvesting of meat and skins	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To prevent starvation of kangaroos during drought	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To reduce motor vehicle collisions with kangaroos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q8. For ten years, kangaroos have been culled in ACT nature reserves for the conservation of grassland and woodland animals. Can you please rate how supportive or unsupportive you are of kangaroo culling for conservation of these animals? Prompt**

- ☐ Very supportive
- ☐ Supportive
- ☐ Neither supportive nor unsupportive
- ☐ Unsupportive
- ☐ Very unsupportive
- ☐ Don't know

**Q9. How important is it to develop and apply fertility control methods to control the breeding of kangaroos in Canberra? Prompt**

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Neither important nor unimportant
- ☐ Unimportant
- ☐ Very unimportant
- ☐ Don't know

**Q10. Have you held an ACT licence to drive a motor vehicle for the last three years?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (If no go to Q12a)

**Q11. In the last three years how many times were you driving a car in the ACT when it was in a motor vehicle collision involving a kangaroo?**  
**Note: Respondent should answer based on the number of cars they themselves had been driving, and not include any collisions they have been involved in where they may have been a passenger.**

- ☐ Never
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5+ (please specify).....

**Q12a. Have you ever been involved in a motor vehicle collision with a kangaroo in the ACT?**

- ☐ Yes – As a driver
- ☐ Yes – As a passenger
- ☐ No (Go to Q13)

**Q12b. Have you ever been involved in a motor vehicle collision with a kangaroo in the ACT that resulted in any of the following? Prompt**

	Yes	No	Don't know
Injury to occupants of the vehicle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An insurance repair claim for the vehicle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The kangaroo hopped away with no obvious injury	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Death or serious injury to the kangaroo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A need for someone to take action regarding pouch young	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Notification of any authority about the kangaroo or the collision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q13. How satisfied are you with the ACT Government's current management of kangaroos? Prompt**

- ☐ Very satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- ☐ Dissatisfied
- ☐ Very dissatisfied
- ☐ Don't know

#### Demographics

**Q14. Please stop me when I read out your age group: Prompt**

- ☐ 18 – 34
- ☐ 35 – 49
- ☐ 50 – 64
- ☐ 65+

**Q15. Gender (determined by voice):**

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female





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