



Home Improvement survey results



Asbestos National
Strategic Plan

Implementation
2019–23

In August 2021, the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency engaged SEC Newgate Australia to conduct an online survey with 'home improvers' to evaluate asbestos knowledge, attitudes and behaviours.

A home improver is anyone undertaking home improvement projects from small maintenance or improvements to large renovations – including those who outsource all or some of the project.

This factsheet contains the key findings for VIC with n=399 participants (27% of total sample size n=1,506).



Home Improver segments

Participants were divided into five distinct home improver segments* as listed below in order of most vulnerable to least vulnerable.

26% Financially vulnerable DIYers

21% Multicultural young urbanites

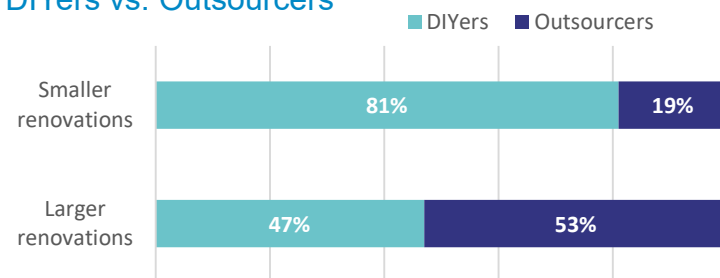
9% Well-heeled DIY enthusiasts

12% Financially comfortable families

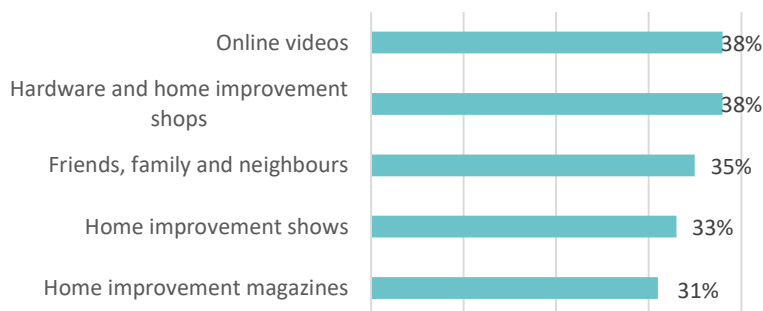
32% Cautious older outsourcers

* Refer to the final report – Asbestos Safety and Home Improvement Research 2021 for more information on these distinct segments.

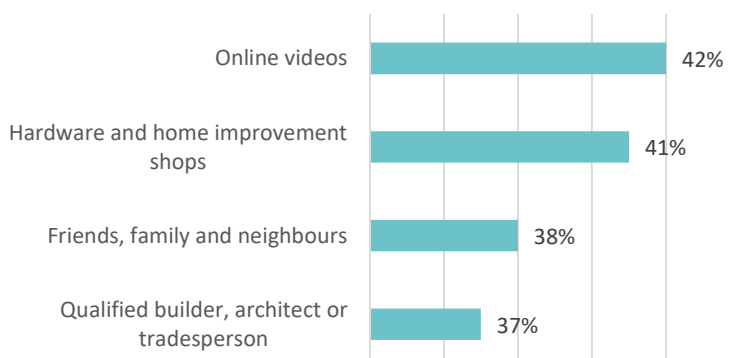
DIYers vs. Outsourcers



Sources of inspiration



Sources of information



Obligation for disclosure

VIC participants **largely agree the following should be obliged to provide asbestos safety information:**

87% A qualified builder or tradesperson

86% Local council

81% State/territory

80% Australian federal government

76% Hardware and home improvement shops (e.g. Bunnings, Mitre 10)

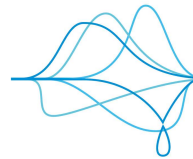


Asbestos disposal

18% of VIC participants indicated that they encountered material containing asbestos during their home improvement project/s. 76% engaged in proper disposal methods with 30% admitting to improper disposal.



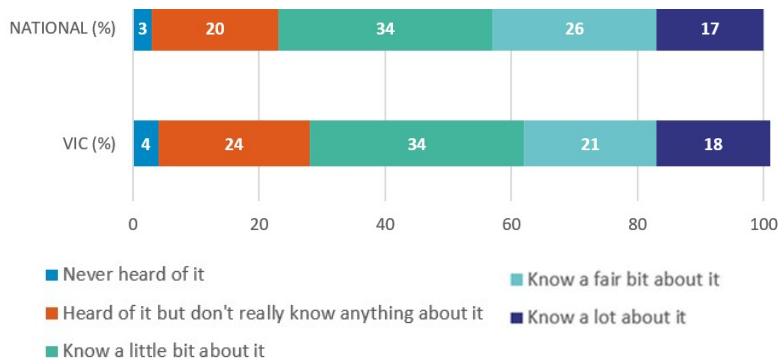
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Knowledge of ACMs when it comes to home improvement projects



ACMs and home improvement projects

Only 5% of VIC participants **spontaneously mentioned asbestos as a potential risk when planning a home improvement project**. This is similar to the 6% national statistic.



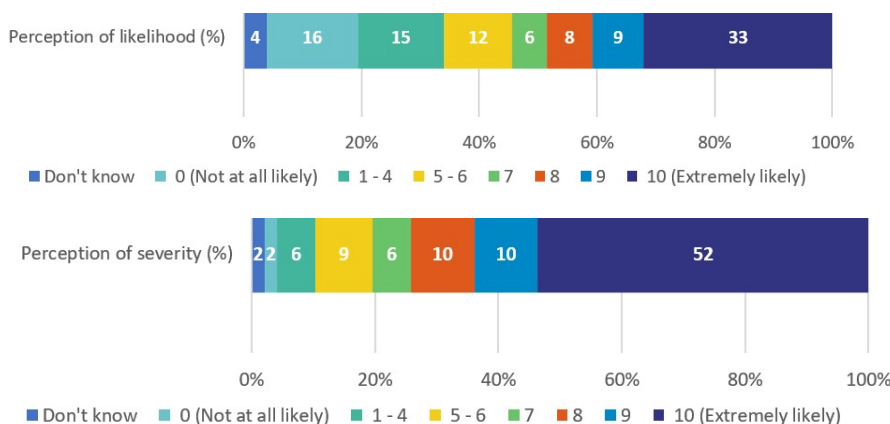
Identifying asbestos

The most common unprompted and prompted suggestions where ACMs could be encountered:

Unprompted - Walls/wall sheeting (36%), roofing/ roof sheeting (23%) older homes/buildings/outbuildings (17%) and ceiling/ ceiling plaster (10%).

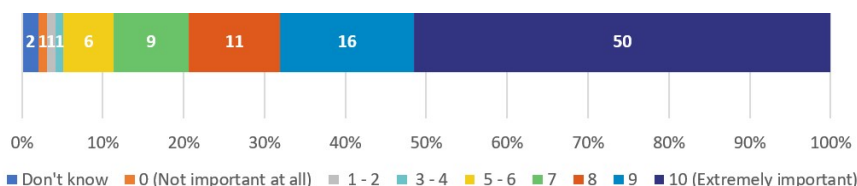
Prompted - Wall and ceiling panels (62%), insulation in roof cavities (55%), outbuildings (e.g. garden sheds, carports, outdoor toilets (40%) and roof sheeting or ridge capping (38%).

Perceived likelihood and severity of risk of ACMs

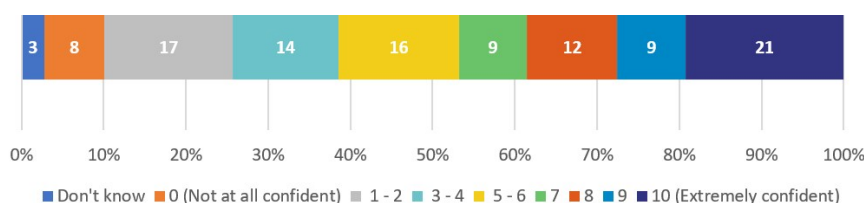


Sentiment towards asbestos

The importance of knowing about managing asbestos in projects (%)



Confidence in their own ability to identify materials or situations that could potentially contain asbestos (%)



Contact us

If you would like to receive further information on the data presented in this factsheet please contact us at enquiries@asbestossafety.gov.au.