



Australian Government



Inspector-  
General of  
Water  
Compliance

# Murray–Darling Basin community perceptions research 2023

Findings relating to the Murray—Darling  
Basin Plan



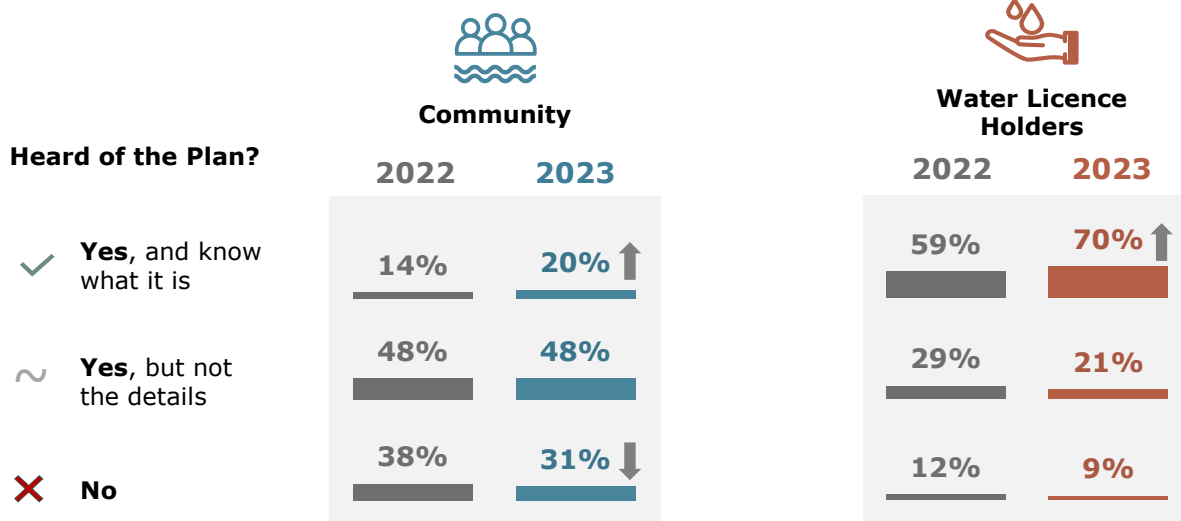
# Awareness and support for the Basin Plan



A key element in understanding sentiment towards water management in the Murray–Darling Basin is knowledge of the Basin Plan.

While awareness of the Basin Plan has increased overall, support has decreased, particularly among water licence holders. Media coverage of the Plan leading up to and during the fieldwork period in 2023 may have influenced levels of awareness and sentiment (i.e. passing of the Water Amendment [*Restoring Our Rivers*] Bill in December 2023).

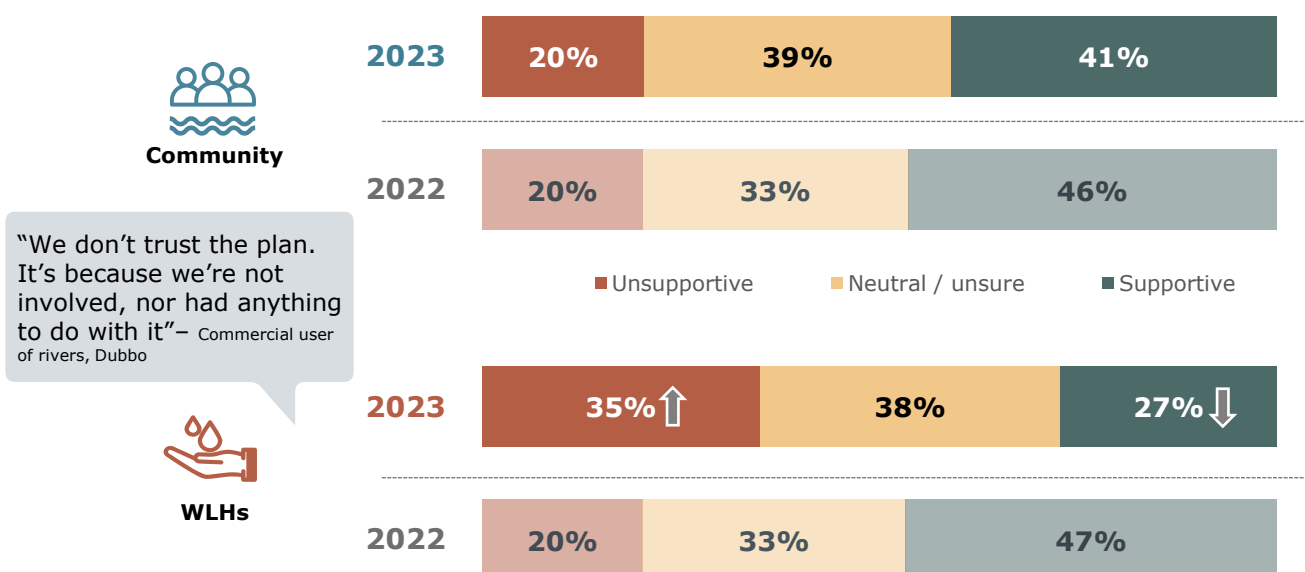
## Awareness of Murray–Darling Basin Plan



Q21. Have you heard of the Murray–Darling Basin Plan?  
 Base: Community (2023: n=800, 2022: n=817), WLH (2023: n=214, 2022: n=200).  
 Note: Arrows indicate results are significantly higher or lower than the previous year (at a 90% Confidence level).

## Support for the Plan

Among those who were aware of the details of the Basin Plan:



"We don't trust the plan. It's because we're not involved, nor had anything to do with it" – Commercial user of rivers, Dubbo

Q24. Overall, thinking about the Murray–Darling Basin Plan, how supportive are you of the Plan? Note: Unsupportive = Not at all supportive / Not supportive, Neutral / unsure = Neither supportive nor unsupportive / Don't know / not sure, Supportive = Supportive / Very supportive.  
 Base: Aware of details about MDB Plan – Community (2023: n=170, 2022: n=120), WLH (2023: n=155, 2022: n=122).  
 Note: Arrows indicate results are significantly higher or lower than the previous year (at a 90% Confidence level).