

VITAL FACTS ON COMMUNITY PHARMACY



The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

Australia's system of community pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme are recognised as world-leading.
September - October 2021



There are 5,822 community pharmacies in Australia¹



On average, every person visits a community pharmacy 18 times each year, in metropolitan, rural and remote locations²



Community pharmacies are the most frequently accessed and most accessible health destination, with over 355 million individual patient visits annually and 2263 pharmacies open after-hours, including weekends³



In 2020, under the PBS and RPBS, community pharmacies dispensed almost 216.7 million Government subsidised (Above Co-Pay) prescriptions⁴



Pharmacists are one of the most trusted professions along with nurses and doctors. Public opinion surveys have shown that 84% of adults trust the advice they receive from pharmacists⁵



More than 94% of pharmacies nationwide have achieved quality accreditation⁶



As at 30th June 2020, 99.9 per cent of PBS or RPBS prescriptions are now claimed electronically online⁶.



In capital cities, 97 per cent of people have access to at least one pharmacy within 2.5 km radius, while in the rest of Australia 66 per cent of people are within 2.5 km of a pharmacy¹⁰.



65% of patients say they use one pharmacy for everything or at least one category of product/service. 33% of patients state they were driven by convenience of location⁶



