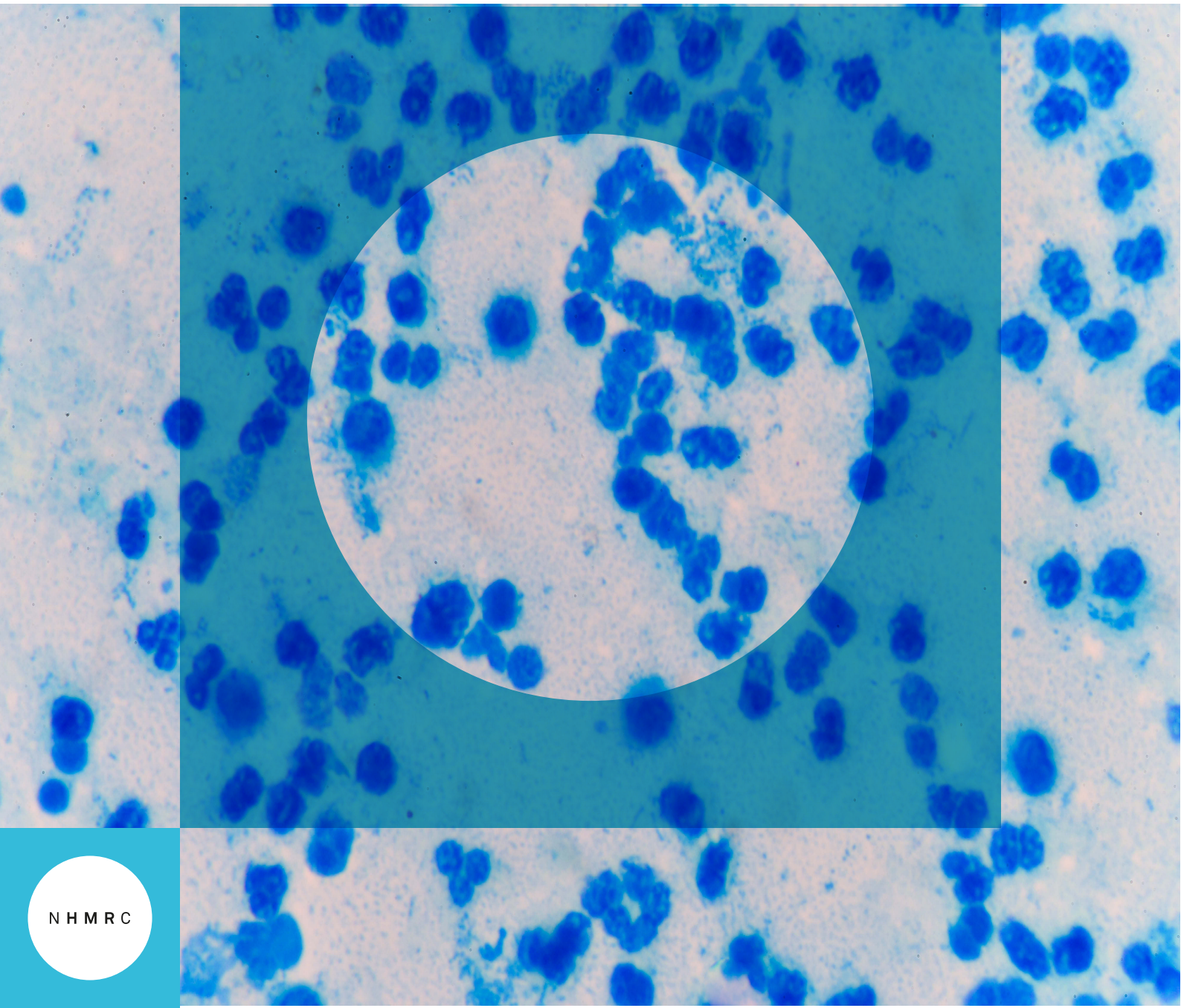




Ideas Grants 2022 Outcomes Factsheet



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Ideas Grants

- The Ideas Grant scheme is the second largest scheme in NHMRC's grant program, accounting for approximately 25% of the Medical Research Endowment Account (MREA).
- The 2022 Ideas Grant round is the fourth round for this scheme and funds grants commencing in January 2023.
- This year, more than 800 peer reviewers provided almost 10,600 individual, independent reviews for the 2,193 grant applications received.
- This year's funding for Ideas Grants totals \$240,917,364.
 - This includes \$37 million in structural priority funding.
- The objective of the Ideas Grant scheme is to support innovative research projects addressing a specific question(s).
- The expected outcomes of the Ideas Grant scheme are:
 - innovative and creative research
 - funding of researchers at all career stages, and
 - funding of any area of health and medical research from discovery to implementation.
- The amount of funding awarded for an Ideas Grant is based on assessment of the requested budget. Applications must clearly justify the requested duration and budget amount and how each element of the budget will support the proposed outcomes of the research.

Ideas Grant Outcomes

- 232 applications from institutions across the country will be funded in this round.
- The teams represent diversity in career stages, research disciplines, disease focus and location where the research will be conducted.

Funding round	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total number of applications received	2739 [^]	2995 [^]	2639 [^]	2193 [^]
Total number of applications applying for NHMRC funding	2649 [*]	2848 [*]	2503 [*]	2109 [*]
Number of grants awarded	294 ^{**}	283	248	232
Percentage of applications awarded	11.1% [◦]	9.9% [◦]	9.9% [◦]	11.0% [◦]
Mean budget for awarded grants	\$822,258.82	\$917,747.57	\$964,640.56	\$1,038,436.92

[^] There were 30 applications ruled ineligible or withdrawn after round close in 2022, there were 28 applications ruled ineligible or withdrawn in 2021, and two applications were withdrawn after the round closed in both the 2019 and 2020 rounds.

^{*}Excludes applications that did not request NHMRC funding.

^{**}Includes one application that was funded by the Australian Communications and Media Authority for research on the health effects of Electromagnetic Energy.

[◦]Note that the funded rate is calculated based on the total number of applications applying for NHMRC funding (excluding those that were ineligible or withdrawn). Each year NHMRC receives several applications that only request funding from our funding partners, Cancer Australia and the Cancer Councils. The funded rate based on all applications that went through peer review in 2022 is 10.5%.

Outcomes by Broad Research Area (BRA)

- NHMRC is committed to supporting a broad range of research from discovery science through to clinical, health services and public health research.
- Basic Science Research received the largest allocation of Ideas Grants funding, representing 80% of awarded grants and 79% of the awarded budget.

Broad Research Area	Year	Applications	Grants awarded	Funded rate	Proportion of grants awarded	Total value
Basic Science Research	2019	1821	221*	12.1%	75.2%	\$173,947,106
	2020	1899	191	10.1%	67.5%	\$169,807,794
	2021	1730	180	10.4%	72.6%	\$170,681,336
	2022	1480	185	12.5%	79.7%	\$191,312,465
Clinical Medicine and Science Research	2019	566	45	8.0%	15.3%	\$40,231,653
	2020	675	59	8.7%	20.8%	\$57,272,149
	2021	560	43	7.7%	17.3%	\$45,554,129
	2022	471	31	6.6%	13.4%	\$34,735,107
Health Services Research	2019	117	12	10.3%	4.1%	\$8,263,881
	2020	125	10	8.0%	3.5%	\$10,869,947
	2021	79	10	12.7%	4.0%	\$9,720,103
	2022	53	3	5.7%	1.3%	\$3,245,687
Public Health Research	2019	147	16	10.9%	5.4%	\$19,301,455
	2020	190	23	12.1%	8.1%	\$21,772,673
	2021	134	15	11.2%	6.0%	\$13,275,291
	2022	105	13	12.4%	5.6%	\$11,624,106

*Includes one application that was funded by the Australian Communications and Media Authority for research on the health effects of Electromagnetic Energy.

Funded Rates by Gender of Chief Investigator A (CIA)

- The difference in funded rates between male and female CIAs is 0.1%.
- NHMRC has identified three areas of structural priority: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers, research lead by women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. Applications that meet these structural priorities may be funded in order of merit, additional to applications within the baseline budget for the scheme. Of the 35 applications funded across the three structural priority areas, a total of 32 are led by a female CIA.

CIA Gender	Year	CIAs on eligible applications	CIAs on grants awarded	Funded rate	Proportion of grants awarded
Female	2019	1108	123	11.1%	41.8%
	2020	1232	121	9.8%	42.8%
	2021	1071	106	9.9%	42.7%
	2022	890	97	10.9%	41.8%
Male	2019	1517	169	11.1%	57.5%
	2020	1635	160	9.8%	56.5%
	2021	1407	141	10.0%	56.9%
	2022	1205	133	11.0%	57.3%
Other*	2019	26	2	7.7%	0.7%
	2020	22	2	9.1%	0.7%
	2021	25	1	4.0%	0.4%
	2022	14	2	14.3%	0.9%

*Includes those who did not state their gender or declared their gender intersex/indeterminate

Funded Rates by Gender for all Chief Investigators (CIs)

- This year, the funded rate for all female CIs (CIA-CIJ) was equal to that of all male CIs (CIA-CIJ).

CI Gender (CIA-CIJ)	Year	CIs on eligible applications (CIA-CIJ)	CIs on grants awarded (CIA-CIJ)	Funded rate
Female	2019	3006	361	12.0%
	2020	3717	391	10.5%
	2021	3043	328	10.8%
	2022	2645	299	11.3%
Male	2019	4501	523	11.6%
	2020	5253	512	9.7%
	2021	4304	446	10.4%
	2022	3807	431	11.3%
Other*	2019	299	35	11.7%
	2020	362	34	9.4%
	2021	381	46	12.1%
	2022	392	38	9.7%

*Includes those who did not state their gender or declared their gender as intersex/indeterminate

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research and Researchers

- NHMRC is committed to allocating at least 5% of the MREA each year to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research.
- 27.3% of applications that address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health have been awarded funding, representing 2.6% of awarded Ideas Grants.
- 26.9% of applications from researchers of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent have been awarded funding, representing 3.0% of awarded Ideas Grants.
- NHMRC has funded additional, competitive applications in both these categories using structural priority funding, on top of the base funding allocation for Ideas Grants.

Indigenous Identified/Indigenous Focused	Year	Applications	Grants awarded	Funded rate	Proportion of grants awarded
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander focused research	2019	29	6	20.7%	2.0%
	2020	47	13	27.7%	4.6%
	2021	30	11	36.7%	4.4%
	2022	22	6	27.3%	2.6%
Applications with one or more researchers of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent in their teams (CIA-CIJ)	2019	42	9	21.4%	3.1%
	2020	47	12	25.5%	4.2%
	2021	32	9	28.1%	3.6%
	2022	26	7	26.9%	3.0%
Applications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research with researchers of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent in their teams (CIA-CIJ)	2019	17	5	29.4%	1.7%
	2020	33	9	27.3%	3.2%
	2021	20	4	20.0%	1.6%
	2022	14	5	35.7%	2.2%

Note: There is overlap in these figures as applications that address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health also had researcher(s) of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent in their teams, as shown in the third row.

Outcomes for CIAs by Career Stage and Gender

- 15.2% of the awarded grants are led by early-career and mid-career CIAs (within ten years post-PhD).

Career Stage	Year	Applicants	Grants awarded				Funded rate	Proportion of grants awarded
			Female	Male	Not Stated	TOTAL		
<10 years post-PhD	2019	782	32	27	-	59	7.5%	20.0%
	2020	792	37	33	1	71	9.0%	25.1%
	2021	607	20	13	-	33	5.4%	13.3%
	2022	497	19	16	-	35	7.0%	15.1%
≥10 years post-PhD	2019	1766	88	136	2	226	12.8%	76.9%
	2020	2015	84	122	1	207	10.3%	73.1%
	2021	1829	86	126	1	213	11.6%	85.9%
	2022	1559	77	113	2	192	12.3%	82.8%
No PhD/ unknown*	2019	103	3	6	-	9	8.7%	3.1%
	2020	82	0	5	0	5	6.1%	1.8%
	2021	67	-	2	-	2	3.0%	0.8%
	2022	53	1	4	-	5	9.4%	2.2%

*No PhD listed in applicant's CV and Profile

Outcomes for all CIs by Career Stage and Gender

- 26% of CIs (CIA, CIB etc.) awarded grants are early-career and mid-career researchers (within ten years post-PhD).

Career Stage	Year	Applicants	Grants awarded				Funded rate	Proportion of CIs awarded grants
			Female	Male	Not Stated	TOTAL		
<10 years post-PhD	2019	2161	98	114	6	218	10.1%	23.7%
	2020	2657	141	121	6	268	10.1%	28.6%
	2021	1969	112	83	1	196	10.0%	23.9%
	2022	1782	110	88	2	200	11.2%	26.0%
≥10 years post-PhD	2019	4381	215	323	9	547	12.5%	59.5%
	2020	5394	209	333	7	549	10.2%	58.6%
	2021	4632	185	312	4	501	10.8%	61.1%
	2022	4109	172	302	7	481	11.7%	62.6%
No PhD/ unknown*	2019	1264	48	86	20	154	12.2%	16.8%
	2020	1281	41	58	21	120	9.4%	12.8%
	2021	1127	31	51	41	123	10.9%	15.0%
	2022	953	17	41	29	87	9.1%	11.3%

*No PhD listed in applicants' CV and Profile

In conclusion

- The Ideas Grant scheme is one of NHMRC's largest funding schemes.
- The fourth year of funding for this scheme has supported 232 applications with the funded rate for female CIAs almost equal to that of male CIAs, and approximately 15.1% of awarded grants led by an early to mid-career researcher.
- The scheme will continue to be run annually, creating opportunities for researchers at all career stages and across a broad range of research topics.