

# 2020 CCENTRIC BOARD CHAIR SURVEY

In 2020, we invited Board Chairs and University Chancellors across healthcare and not-for-profit organisations, medical research institutes and universities, to participate in our Board Chair Survey with 73 people responding.

The aim was to gain data around the diversity of boards in Australia as well as the extent to which organisations appoint directors from different experience and background; and finally, to establish what boards feel their most important functions are.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS:

### HOW BOARDS ARE MADE UP:

Of the Boards surveyed:



The most common length of time a board chair had spent in their role was 3-5 years



The average board chair dedicated 3-5 days per month to that specific organisation



The majority had more than eight board directors (69%)



76% Board Chairs believe their board has a good mix of career background and competence

### BOARD FUNCTIONS AND PROCESSES:

Board chairs rank the following three things as the most important board functions:



**1.** CEO recruitment and succession planning



**2.** Financial stewardship



**3.** Strategic planning for the organisation

Clearly Boards have more work to do in some areas. For example:



Only 18% of Board Chairs think their board does enough to undertake regular assessments of the skills, experience and backgrounds that are desirable on the board, with a view to identifying and address potential gaps



Only 16% of Board Chairs think their board has appropriate policies and practices to enable orderly board succession



35% of Board chairs think their board demonstrates an appropriate balance between achieving the organisation's mission and ensuring a sustainable financial performance

When looking to recruit a new CEO or Vice Chancellor, Board Chairs rank the following as the top three essential attributes required:



**1.** Integrity



**2.** Judgement



**3.** Leadership Ability

### DIVERSITY:



Only 21% Board Chairs believe their board has appropriate indigenous representation amongst their directors



63% of Board Chairs believe their board has appropriate gender representation amongst their directors