

Survey Results: *Attitudes to nano-ingredients in sunscreens*

Survey commissioned by Friends of the Earth Australia and carried out by The Australia Institute.

Note: Base size for all results n=1,294.

Hundreds of Australian sunscreens and cosmetics now contain manufactured nanoparticles, or “nano-ingredients”. These are extremely tiny particles 8,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair.

1. In your opinion, should the government should...

- Adopt special rules to ensure nano-ingredients are safe
- Use the existing rules to ensure nano-ingredients are safe
- Not sure

Adopt special rules to ensure nano-ingredients are safe	53%
Use the existing rules to ensure nano-ingredients are safe	22%
Not sure	24%
Total	100%

2. In your opinion, should sunscreen and cosmetics manufacturers have to conduct safety tests on nano-ingredients before using them in products?

- Yes – safety tests should be required
- No – safety tests should not be required
- Not sure.

Yes – safety tests should be required	92%
No – safety tests should not be required	3%
Not sure	5%
Total	100%

3. In your opinion, should companies be required to label sunscreens and cosmetics which contain nano-ingredients?

- Yes – labelling should be compulsory
- No – labelling should not be compulsory
- Not sure

Yes – labelling should be compulsory	85%
No – labelling should not be compulsory	4%
Not sure	10%
Total	100%

4. Suppose you needed to buy some sunscreen. Which of these would you prefer to purchase?

- Sunscreen with the label: ‘contains nano-ingredients’
- Sunscreen with the label: ‘does not contain nano-ingredients’
- Any sunscreen, regardless of what the label says about nano- ingredients
- Not sure.

Sunscreen with the label: ‘contains nano-ingredients’	12%
Sunscreen with the label: ‘does not contain nano-ingredients’	38%
Any sunscreen, regardless of what the label says about nano-	22%
Not sure	28%
Total	100%