TEN KEY FINDINGS

56%
of respondents agreed that most board members had a good understanding of their organisation's finances.

22% did not. Only 16% believe all members of the board have a good understanding of the finances of the organisation they are governing.

53%
of community based and volunteer organisations have difficulty recruiting a suitable treasurer.

Perhaps as a result, 5% are paying their treasurer, rising to 11% for large organisations.

6%
have experienced fraud in the past three years and 60% of frauds are not reported to the police.

The bigger the organisation, the higher the rate of fraud. It's estimated that Australian not-for-profit organisations could be losing up to $38 million to fraud each year*.

31%
of organisations believe they don't need any formal risk management processes because they trust their staff.

The smaller the organisation, the more trusting it is. Nonetheless, 79% of frauds are perpetrated by trusted insiders.

63%
of large organisations rely primarily on government contracts and grants for funding, while almost one in five now source the largest part of their income from trading activities or service provision.

29%
of respondents say their organisation isn't doing enough to protect against cyber-crime, while 39% aren't sure if their organisation is doing enough.

85%
say it's becoming harder to find consistent and regular funding.

But despite the challenges, more not-for-profits are expanding their operations than are reducing them.

1 in 5
say the past year has been the most challenging year for raising revenue in their organisation's history.

15%
of respondents said they expected to take part in a merger in the next 12 months.

56%
are feeling pressure to reduce their overheads, and half of those say the most pressure is coming from their own board.

*5.94% of respondents to our survey indicated their organisations had suffered fraud in the past three years, with an average loss of $33,769. Extrapolated across the 57,000 economically significant Australian not-for-profit organisations, this is a total loss of $114,335,080, or $38,111,693 lost to fraud each year.