|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| **Project Name** | **Federal Election Polling** |
| **General Project Details** | |
| Research Company | Essential Research |
| End client/Commissioned by | Solutions for Climate |
| Project dates | 8th April to 17th April 2025 |
| Australia Polling Council compliant | Yes |
| **Sample Details** | |
| Sample source | Online panel sample supplied by Dynata |
| Data collection | 100% online |
| Sample size | n=2,008 |
| Target population | Sample 1. All voters: Australian residents aged 18+ who are eligible to vote in the 2024 Federal Election (n=1,002).  Sample 2. Teal voters: Australian residents aged 18+ who are eligible to vote in the 2024 Federal Election, live within specific electorates identified as currently or potentially being represented in the Federal parliament by a community (or Teal) independent MP and intend to give their primary vote to this independent candidate (n=1,006).  The following electorates were eligible for this sample: Bradfield (NSW), Clark (Tas), Cowper (NSW), Curtin (WA), Flinders (Vic), Forrest (WA), Goldstein (Vic), Indi (Vic), Kooyong (Vic), Mackellar (NSW), Monash (Vic), Wannon (Vic), Warringah (NSW), Wentworth (NSW). |
| Quotas | Sample 1. Quotas were applied to be representative of the target population by gender, age and location.  Sample 2. No quotas were applied to this sample |
| **Weighting information** | |
| Weighting applied to final/published results | Sample 1. Yes  Sample 2. No |
| Weighting methodology | RIM and cell weighting |
| Weighting variables | Age/Gender/Location/Previous Vote (May 2022 Federal Election) |
| Weighting target source | ABS, AEC |
| Effective sample size | n=843 |
| Weighting efficiency | 84% |
| Maximal margin of error  (Effective sample size) | ±3.4% (95% confidence level). |
| **Question information** | |
| Statement randomisation | Where respondents are required to provide ratings to a list of statements (or select from a list of other items) the statements (or other items) are randomised.  For some surveys the statements/items are presented in 'carousel' format this means that the respondents can only see one statement/item at a time.  To identify which questions are randomised look for the **RANDOMISE** instruction the questionnaire below. |

**Questionnaire Content**

S1. What is your gender?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Male
2. Female
3. Other term (please specify)
4. Prefer not to say **[TERMINATE]**

S2. What is your age?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Under 18 **[TERMINATE]**
2. 18-24
3. 25-34
4. 35-44
5. 45-54
6. 55-64
7. 65-74
8. 75+
9. Prefer not to answer **[TERMINATE]**

S3. What is your postcode?

**FOUR DIGIT FREE TEXT BOX**

**ASK IF SAMPLE 2 AND S3 IS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING POSTCODES**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Electorate** | **State** | **Location** | **Community independent** | **Postcodes** |
| Clark | TAS | Inner | Andrew Wilkie | 7012 |
| Curtin | WA | Inner | Kate Chaney | 6007, 6018 |
| Goldstein | VIC | Inner | Zoe Daniel | 3162, 3185, 3189, 3204 |
| Indi | VIC | Rural | Helen Haynes | 3666, 3669, 3675, 3725 |
| Kooyong | VIC | Inner | Monique Ryan | 3103, 3104, 3124 |
| Mackellar | NSW | Outer | Sophie Scamps | 2099 |
| Warringah | NSW | Inner | Zali Steggall | 2065, 2100 |
| Wentworth | NSW | Inner | Allegra Spender | 2031 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Bradfield | NSW | Inner | Nicolette Boele | 2067, 2076 |
| Cowper | NSW | Regional/Rural | Caz Heise | 2441, 2450, 2453 |
| Flinders | VIC | Regional/Rural | Ben Smith | 3930 |
| Forrest | WA | Rural | Sue Chapman |  |
| Monash | VIC | Rural | Deb Leonard | 3816, 3825, 3871, 3962, 3966, 3967, 3984 |
| Wannon | VIC | Rural | Alex Dyson | 3221, 3312, 3322 |

S4. We have identified your electorate as **[INSERT ELECTORATE IDENTIFICATION].**

Is this correct?

1. Yes
2. No

**TERMINATE IF NO [S4=2]**

**2. VOTING AND POLITICS SECTION**

Q1. Are you enrolled to vote in the upcoming Australian federal election to be held on 3rd May 2025?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Yes
2. No, but will be by election day 3rd May
3. No, and won’t be **[TERMINATE]**

Q2. To which party are you most likely to give your first preference vote in the House of Representatives (Lower House)?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. STATEMENTS 11 TO REMAIN AT BOTTOM OF LIST RANDOMISE STATEMENTS 1 & 2/4/5 ONLY**

1. Labor
2. Liberal **[Do not show in QLD or NT]**
3. National **[Do not show in QLD or NT]**
4. Liberal National Party **[Only show in QLD]**
5. Country Liberals **[Only show in NT]**
6. **[SHOW IF SAMPLE 2 ELECTORATE]** Independent candidate **[INSERT NAME]**
7. Greens
8. Pauline Hanson’s One Nation
9. Trumpet of Patriots
10. **[IF SAMPLE 1]** Independent or other party / **[IF SAMPLE 2 ELECTORATE]** Other independent or party
11. Don’t know

**ASK IF Q2=11**

Q3. Well which party are you currently leaning towards?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. STATEMENT 11 TO REMAIN AT BOTTOM OF LIST RANDOMISE STATEMENTS 1 & 2/4/5**

1. Labor
2. Liberal **[Do not show in QLD or NT]**
3. National **[Do not show in QLD or NT]**
4. Liberal National Party **[Only show in QLD]**
5. Country Liberals **[Only show in NT]**
6. **[SHOW IF SAMPLE 2 ELECTORATE]** Independent candidate **[INSERT NAME]**
7. Greens
8. Pauline Hanson’s One Nation
9. Trumpet of Patriots
10. **[IF SAMPLE 1]** Independent or other party / **[IF SAMPLE 2 ELECTORATE]** Other independent or party
11. Don’t know

**SAMPLE 2 TERMINATE IF Q2≠6 OR Q3≠6**

**ASK IF Q2=6-10 OR Q3=6-10**

Q4. Following your first preference vote, which of the following would you preference higher in the House of Representatives (Lower House)?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE 1 & 2**

1. Labor
2. Liberal/National Coalition
3. Unsure

**PARTY PREFERENCE [SCRIPTER INSTRUCTIONS HIDDEN CODE]**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **PRO-PARTY** | **ANTI-PARTY** |
| **If Q2=1 or Q3=1 or Q4=1** | **Labor** | **Liberal/National Coalition** |
| **If Q2=2-5 or Q3=2-5 or Q4=2** | **Liberal/National Coalition** | **Labor** |

**ASK IF (Q2=1 or Q3=1 or Q4=1) OR (Q2=2-5 or Q3=2-5 or Q4=2)**

Q5. Which of the following is closer to your main reason for preferencing **[PRO-PARTY]** at the upcoming federal election?

1. Voting for **[PRO-PARTY]** because I want them to form government
2. Voting for **[PRO-PARTY]** because don’t want **[ANTI-PARTY]** to govern

Q6. At the previous Federal election (held on 21 May 2022), to which party did you give your first preference vote in the House of Representatives (Lower House)?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. OPTIONS 8 TO REMAIN AT BOTTOM OF LIST RANDOMISE OPTIONS 1 & 2/4/5**

1. Labor
2. Liberal **[Do not show in QLD or NT]**
3. National **[Do not show in QLD or NT]**
4. Liberal National Party **[Only show in QLD]**
5. Country Liberals **[Only show in NT]**
6. Greens
7. Pauline Hanson’s One Nation
8. Trumpet of Patriots
9. Independent or other party
10. Don’t know

Q7. How much attention do you pay to federal politics right now?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. No attention at all
2. A little attention
3. Some attention
4. A lot of attention

Q8. Which of the following is closest to your view on the best outcome of the upcoming federal election on 3rd May?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE ANSWERS**

1. It is better for one party to have a majority of seats in parliament, so it can govern and pass legislation by itself
2. It is better for no single party to have a majority of seats in parliament, so it has to share power to govern and pass legislation

Q9. After a federal election, if no party wins an outright majority of seats in the House of Representatives (the lower house of Parliament) then negotiation will be necessary to form a government.

In this situation, the major party that can demonstrate it can pass key votes such as budgets with the support of minor parties or independents will typically form a government despite not having a majority by itself.

This is sometimes called a minority government or a power sharing government.

If neither major party wins an outright majority at the upcoming federal election on 3rd May, how important should each of the following considerations be for independent MPs if they must decide who to support to form government?

1. Very important
2. Somewhat important
3. A little bit important
4. Not important at all

**SINGLE RESPONSE PER STATEMENT. RANDOMISE STATEMENTS**

1. The party that won the most seats elsewhere in the country
2. The party that agrees to support the policies of the elected MP
3. The party that the MP’s electorate has supported in previous elections
4. The party the MP believes will deliver the best benefits for people in their electorate
5. The party the MP believes has the best policies for the entire nation
6. The party the MP believes can maintain the most stable government

Q10. If neither major party wins enough seats to form government by itself, which of these statements is closer to what you think independents should do:

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE OPTIONS**

1. Support the party that won more seats to form government
2. Support the party that they think is better overall for Australia to form government

Q11. If **[RANDOM PARTY A]** wins the most seats (but not enough to reach a majority), but **[RANDOM PARTY B]** forms a government with support from independents, is that a legitimate outcome?

1. Labor
2. Liberal/National Coalition

**ALLOCATE SCENARIO USING RANDOM SELECTION OF PARTIES ABOVE. SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE OPTIONS 1 AND 2**

1. Yes, it’s legitimate
2. No, it’s not legitimate
3. Don’t know

**RANDOMISE ORDER OF QUESTIONS Q12 AND Q13  
ASK IF SAMPLE 2 ONLY [INDEPENDENT VOTERS IN SELECTED ELECTORATES]**

Q12. If **[INSERT CANDIDATE NAME]** were to be elected in your electorate at the upcoming election and entered a power-sharing agreement with **Labor** to form a minority government, how would that affect your likelihood of voting for them in the future?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Much less likely
2. A little less likely
3. No impact
4. A little more likely
5. Much more likely

**ASK IF SAMPLE 2 ONLY [INDEPENDENT VOTERS IN SELECTED ELECTORATES]**

Q13. If **[INSERT CANDIDATE NAME]** were to be elected in your electorate at the upcoming election and entered a power-sharing agreement with the **Liberal/National Coalition** to form a minority government, how would that affect your likelihood of voting for them in the future?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Much less likely
2. A little less likely
3. No impact
4. A little more likely
5. Much more likely

**ASK IF SAMPLE 2 ONLY [INDEPENDENT VOTERS IN SELECTED ELECTORATES]**

Q14. What role would you prefer **[INSERT CANDIDATE NAME]** to take if supporting a major party to form government?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANODMISE OPTIONS 1 AND 2**

1. Stay completely independent and vote issue-by-issue
2. Enter an agreement to support a government in return for policy outcomes
3. Don’t know / No opinion

**ASK SAMPLE 1 ONLY**

Q15. In recent elections there has been an increase in independents elected to parliament as part of a movement that has been described as the ‘community independents’ or ‘Teal independents’.

If there was a community independent candidate running in your electorate at the upcoming election how likely would you be to vote for them?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Not at all likely
2. A little likely
3. Quite likely
4. Very likely
5. Unsure

**ASK ALL**

Q16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about minority and power sharing governments?

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neither agree, nor disagree
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

**SINGLE RESPONSE PER STATEMENT. RANDOMISE STATEMENTS**

1. Having a wider range of voices in the government through power sharing will lead to better decisions
2. It’s good for independents to have the balance of power and hold the major parties accountable
3. In a power sharing government there is more confusion and chaos than in a majority government
4. Both Labor and Liberal-National single-party governments have failed to deliver real improvements for Australians over the last 12 years
5. Support for the major parties has been going down because they have not done enough to address the biggest problems facing Australians
6. Independent MPs are more likely than major party MPs to improve legislation or deliver outcomes that benefit people in their local area
7. A party that did not win a majority of seats and only receives around one-third of the national vote is not entitled to govern on its own
8. The current minority governments in Tasmania, NSW and ACT seem to work just as well as majority governments elsewhere

Q17. To what extent would you support or oppose the following policies if introduced by the next government?

1. Strongly oppose
2. Somewhat oppose
3. Neither support, nor oppose
4. Somewhat support
5. Strongly support

**SINGLE RESPONSE PER STATEMENT. RANDOMISE STATEMENTS**

1. No more approvals of new coal or gas projects
2. Fund household rooftop solar, home batteries and energy saving appliances to help with cost of living pressures
3. Regulate political advertising to reduce lies and misinformation
4. Build more government funded social and affordable housing
5. Cap the cost of childcare at $10 per day per child
6. Give the consumer watchdog stronger powers to crack down on supermarkets ripping off customers and farmers
7. Build nuclear power reactors that begin generating electricity in the late 2030s
8. Fund domestic violence services so there are no waiting lists and women can escape danger

Q18. In the event no party wins an outright majority of seats in the House of Representatives, which of the following is the closest to your view about how the power sharing government will operate?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE OPTIONS**

1. It will be harder to get things done and less legislation passed, because the government will have to negotiate with independents
2. It will be easier to get things done and more legislation passed, because independents will be able to force the government to address difficult issues

Q19. In the event no party wins an outright majority of seats in the House of Representatives, which of the following is closest to your view about how closely independent MPs should collaborate with each other before negotiating with the major parties?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE OPTIONS**

1. Independent MPs should work together to have more influence and get better outcomes
2. Independent MPs should work separately to maintain their independence, even if it means they have less influence

Q20. In the event no party wins an outright majority of seats in the House of Representatives, which of the following is closest to your view about how Independent MPs should negotiate with the major parties?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE OPTIONS**

1. Independent MPs should decide who to support to form government as soon as possible, even if it means they don’t get as many negotiated outcomes
2. Independent MPs should take their time to negotiate the best possible outcomes, even if it means they don’t decide who will form government straight away

Q21. From which three of the following energy policies do you think you and your family would be most likely to benefit?

Please select the top three answers.

1= Receive most benefit, 2=Receive 2nd most benefit, 3=Receive 3rd most benefit

**SELECTED RANKING 1-3. ONLY THREE OPTIONS TO BE SELECTED. NO DUPLICATION. RANDOMISE OPTIONS.**

1. Support investment in building more large-scale renewable energy, like wind and solar, with battery storage
2. Fund more households to access rooftop solar and home batteries
3. Fund the construction of nuclear energy reactors that will come online in the late 2030s at the earliest
4. Fund big battery storage, to store energy generated by solar and wind
5. Build new coal-fired power stations
6. Force large gas companies to reserve gas for Australian customers instead of exporting their gas production overseas

Q22. The Liberal/National Coalition announced a plan to build nuclear power stations in Australia that will begin generating electricity by 2035-37.

How likely do you think this is that this will happen?.

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Highly unlikely
2. Quite unlikely
3. Quite likely
4. Highly likely
5. Unsure

Q23. Which of the following do you think the Federal Government should do in regard to future coal mining operations in Australia?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE OPTIONS 1 AND 3**

1. Allow new coal projects to go ahead
2. Stop new coal projects but let existing fossil fuel projects continue operating as is
3. Stop new coal projects and start to phase down production from existing fossil fuel projects
4. Don't know

Q24. Which of the following is closest to your view on Australia’s future gas extraction?

**SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE OPTIONS**

* + - 1. The Australian government should not allow any further gas fields to go ahead
      2. The Australian government should allow gas fields to go ahead

Q25.Australia is one of the world’s largest exporters of gas. However, energy prices in Australia have risen in large part due to the high cost of gas.

To what extent would you support or oppose placing limits on how much gas can be exported overseas so more is kept for Australians in order to keep prices lower?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Strongly oppose
2. Somewhat oppose
3. Neither support, nor oppose
4. Somewhat support
5. Strongly support

**Demographics:**

D1. Which of the following best describes how you feel about your current financial circumstances?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

* + - 1. Comfortable. I don’t have to worry about paying bills, I have savings and enough to buy luxuries
      2. Secure. I’m able to pay bills and usually have money spare for savings or buying luxuries
      3. Struggling a bit. I have to watch the budget to make sure there’s enough money for all the bills
      4. In serious difficulty. Being able to pay all the bills is a regular concern

D2. Which of the following best describes your current living situation?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Live in your own home
2. Rent
3. Live with parents, other family members or friends
4. Living in temporary or short-term accommodation (incl. house-sitting, couch-surfing etc.)
5. Other (please specify)

D3. Do you have any dependent children (under the age of 18) living in your household?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

* + - 1. Yes
      2. No

D4. What is the highest level of education you have attained?

**SINGLE RESPONSE**

1. Year 9 and below
2. Year 10 and above
3. Certificate levels I-IV
4. Diploma or advanced diploma
5. Graduate diploma or certificate
6. Bachelor or honours degree
7. Post-graduate degree
8. Other (please specify)
9. I prefer not to answer

—--- END —------