



Public Polling Methodology Statement: Climate of the Nation 2021

Publication date: 13 OCTOBER 2021

Short Methodology Statement

Research company	YouGov Galaxy Pty Ltd
Client commissioning the research	The Australia Institute
End client	The Australia Institute
Fieldwork dates	2-11 August 2021
Mode of data collection	Online recruited from research panel (100%)
Target population	Australians Residents aged 18+
Sample size	2626
Australian Polling Council compliant	Yes
URL of Long Methodology statement	https://au.yougov.com/results/apc
Is voting intention published?	No

Long Methodology Statement

Effective sample size after weighting applied	1993
Margin of error associated with effective sample size	±1.91
Variables used in weighting	Age x gender x location
Weighting method used	Rim weighting
Full question text, responses categories and randomisation	See below
Proportion of landline/mobile completed interviews	N/A
Source of online sample	Selected from previously recruited online panels of research participants to fill quotas loosely based on weighting frame
Positioning of voting intention questions in questionnaire?	N/A
How were undecided voters handled?	N/A
2PP calculation method	N/A



Full Question Text of Published Questions

TAI_Q1	Thinking about politics generally. Which political party do you tend to support or feel comes closest to representing your opinions? Please select one option only. <i>Single select RANDOMISE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	Labor	
2.	Liberals	
3.	The Nationals	
4.	The Greens	
5.	One Nation	
6.	Some other party	
7.	Don't know/ none	Fixed
TAI_Q2	How concerned are you about climate change? Please select one option only. <i>Single select REVERSE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	Very concerned	
2.	Fairly concerned	
3.	Not very concerned	
4.	Not at all concerned	
5.	Don't know/ none	Fixed
TAI_Q3	Which one of the following statements is closest to your opinion? Please select one option only. <i>Single select REVERSE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	I think that climate change is occurring	
2.	I do not think that climate change is occurring	
3.	I am unsure/don't know whether climate change is occurring	
TAI_Q4	To what degree do you think we are experiencing the impacts of climate change in Australia? Please select one option only <i>Single select REVERSE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	A lot	
2.	A little	
3.	Not very much	
4.	Not at all	
5.	Don't know/ none	Fixed
TAI_Q5	Which one of the following statements is closest to your opinion? Please select one option only. <i>Single select REVERSE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	I think that humans are the main cause of climate change	
2.	I think that natural cycles are the main cause of climate change	
3.	I don't know the causes of climate change	
4.	I don't believe that climate change is happening at all	
TAI_Q6	For each of the following statements about climate change please indicate the extent that you agree or disagree.	Ask ALL



	Please select one option per row	
	<i>Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	The seriousness of climate change is exaggerated	
2.	I trust the science that suggests the climate is changing due to human activities	
3.	There are too many conflicting opinions for the public to be sure about claims made around climate change	
4.	Ignoring climate change is simply not an answer as it increases the risk of the situation getting worse	
5.	Further extreme weather as a result of climate change will cause adverse economic impacts for Australia	
6.	Further extreme weather as a result of climate change will cause cost of living rises in Australia, such as increased food prices and higher home insurance premiums	
	<i>Column order REVERSE</i>	
a.	Strongly disagree	
b.	Disagree	
c.	Neither agree or disagree	
d.	Agree	
e.	Strongly agree	
TAI_Q7	How concerned are you that climate change will result in the following outcomes?	Ask ALL
	Please select one option per row.	
	<i>Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	Water shortages in our cities and towns	
2.	Rising sea levels threatening our coastal communities	
3.	More droughts and flooding affecting crop production and food supply	
4.	More bushfires	
5.	Animal and plant species becoming extinct	
6.	More refugees and displaced peoples	
7.	Destruction of the Great Barrier Reef	
8.	Melting of the polar ice caps	
9.	More extreme weather events like floods and cyclones	
10.	Energy shortages and blackouts	
11.	More heatwaves and extremely hot days	
12.	Impacts on health, e.g. illness related to: water scarcity or quality, heat, mosquito-borne viruses	
	<i>Column order REVERSE</i>	
a.	Very concerned	
b.	Fairly concerned	
c.	Not very concerned	
d.	Not at all concerned	
e.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q8a	Thinking about the following, do you think global warming is already causing these impacts in Australia and if not, how likely or unlikely do you think global warming is to cause these impacts in the future?	Ask ALL
	Please select one option per row.	
	<i>Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	Water shortages in our cities and towns	
2.	More bushfires	
3.	More droughts and flooding affecting crop production and food supply	
4.	More refugees and displaced peoples	
5.	Animal and plant species becoming extinct	
6.	Melting of the polar ice caps	



7.	Destruction of the Great Barrier Reef	
8.	Energy shortages and blackouts	
9.	More extreme weather events like floods and cyclones	
10.	Ocean acidification	
11.	More heatwaves and extremely hot days	
	Impacts on health, e.g. illness related to: water scarcity or quality, heat, mosquito-borne viruses	
	Rising sea levels threatening our coastal communities	
	Column order REVERSE	
a.	Global warming is already causing	
b.	Global warming is likely to cause	
c.	Global warming is unlikely to cause	
d.	Global warming will not cause	
e.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q9a	Thinking now about how Australian governments are preparing for and adapting to the impacts of global warming, do you think governments are...? Please select one option only.	Ask ALL
	Single select REVERSE	
1.	Not doing enough	
2.	Doing enough	
3.	Doing too much	
4.	Not at all concerned	
5.	Don't know/none	Fixed
Q8_2021	The International Energy Agency (IEA) recommends no new fossil fuel projects be approved, in order to avoid "the worst effects of climate change" by limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C. Should Australia follow the IEA pathway, and not approve any new gas, coal or oil projects?	Ask ALL
	Single select REVERSE	
1.	Strongly support	
2.	Support	
3.	Oppose	
4.	Strongly oppose	
5.	Don't know/ not sure	Fixed
TAI_Q10a	Who should primarily pay the costs of preparing for, adapting to, and responding to global warming impacts? Please select one option only.	Ask ALL
	Single select RANDOMISE	
1.	Taxpayers	
2.	People facing climate change impacts (e.g. coastal communities, those in bushfire or flood-prone areas)	
3.	Fossil fuel producers (i.e. coal, gas and oil companies)	
4.	Others	Fixed
5.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q11a	Would you support or oppose the introduction of a levy on Australia's fossil fuel exports to help fund local government actions to prepare for, and protect from, the consequences of climate change? Please select one option only.	Ask ALL
	Single select REVERSE	



1.	Strongly support	
2.	Support	
3.	Oppose	
4.	Strongly oppose	
5.	Don't know/ not sure	Fixed
TAI_Q12a	<p>Please rank the following energy sources for Australia to use from your most preferred to your least preferred with your most preferred at the top and your least preferred at the bottom.</p> <p>Please rank most preferred to least preferred.</p> <p>Rank RANDOMISE</p>	Ask ALL
1.	Coal	
2.	Gas	
3.	Wind	
4.	Nuclear	
5.	Hydro (dams)	
6.	Geothermal	
7.	Tidal/Wave	
8.	Solar	
9.	Power Storage batteries (e.g. Tesla)	
10.	Don't know	Fixed exclusive
TAI_Q13a	<p>For each of the following statements about climate change please indicate the extent that you agree or disagree.</p> <p>Please select one option per row.</p> <p>Grid row order RANDOMISE</p>	Ask ALL
1.	Australia's aging coal fired power stations are increasingly unreliable	
2.	The market and energy companies should be the ones to decide when old coal plants are closed	
3.	Governments need to implement a plan to ensure the orderly closure of old coal plants and their replacement with clean energy	
	Column order REVERSE	
a.	Strongly disagree	
b.	Disagree	
c.	Neither agree or disagree	
d.	Agree	
e.	Strongly agree	
f.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q14a	<p>Over time, Australia's coal-fired power stations are going to be replaced with cleaner technology, like wind and solar. This will involve costs - for new generation, site remediation and redundancies.</p> <p>Which one of the following do you prefer?</p> <p>Please select one option only.</p> <p>Single select RANDOMISE</p>	Ask ALL
1.	Keep them running for as long as possible and we will deal with the costs and negative impacts in the future	
2.	Start phasing them out gradually so that we can manage the costs over time	
3.	Phase them out as soon as possible so we can make a rapid shift to clean energy, even if it costs more in the short term	
4.	Coal does not need to be replaced by other power sources like wind or solar power	



TAI_Q15a	When do you think that Australia should completely end coal fired power generation?	Ask ALL
	Please select one option only	
	<i>Single select</i>	
1.	Within the next ten years	
2.	In the next 10-20 years	
3.	In the next 20-30 years	
4.	In the next 30-50 years	
5.	Coal fired power should never be completely phased out	
TAI_Q16a	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Ask ALL
	Please select one option per row.	
	<i>Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	Australia should be a world leader in finding solutions to climate change	
2.	Tackling climate change creates opportunities in clean energy (e.g. solar, wind, batteries) - for new jobs and investment	
3.	Australia should not act on climate change until other major emitters like US and China do so	
4.	Australia needs to help vulnerable peoples and developing countries adapt to the negative impacts of climate change	
5.	Australia should implement policies to protect the environment from the harmful impacts of climate change	
6.	Australia should wait for other countries before we strengthen our emissions reduction targets	
7.	Australia should set targets and implement domestic action to help limit global warming to 1.5-2°C and achieve net zero emissions	
	<i>Column order REVERSE</i>	
a.	Strongly disagree	
b.	Disagree	
c.	Neither agree or disagree	
d.	Agree	
e.	Strongly agree	
f.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q17a	To the best of your knowledge...?	Ask ALL
	Please select one option per row.	
	<i>Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	What proportion of Australia's workforce is employed directly by coal mining	
2.	What proportion of Australia's GDP is generated directly by coal mining	
	<i>Column order</i>	
a.	20% or more	
b.	10%-19.9%	
c.	5%-9.9%	
d.	1%-4.9%	
e.	Less than 1%	
f.	Don't know	
TAI_Q18a	A moratorium on new coal mines would mean Australia would stop building new coal mines and stop expanding existing ones. However, existing mines would continue to operate under their current approvals. Do you support or oppose a moratorium on new coal mines?	Ask ALL
	Please select one option only.	
	<i>Single select REVERSE</i>	



1.	Support	
2.	Oppose	
3.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q19a	Which of the following is closest to your personal view. The Australian government should...?	Ask ALL
	<i>Single select REVERSE</i>	
1.	top new coal mines and phase out existing coal mines as soon as possible	
2.	Stop new coal mines, but allow existing coal mines to operate until the end of their approvals	
3.	Allow new coal mines to be built, but stop any taxpayer subsidies	
4.	Use taxpayer funds to subsidise new coal mines	
5.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q20a	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Please select one option per row.	Ask ALL
	<i>Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	Coal mining has a strong economic future	
2.	Overall, the economic benefits of coal mining outweigh its negative impacts on health, the environment and other industries	
3.	Australian governments should plan to phase out coal mining and transition into other industries	
	<i>Column order REVERSE</i>	
a.	Strongly disagree	
b.	Disagree	
c.	Neither agree or disagree	
d.	Agree	
e.	Strongly agree	
f.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q21a	To the best of your knowledge...? Please select one option per row.	Ask ALL
	<i>Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	What proportion of Australia's workforce is employed directly by oil and gas extraction	
2.	What proportion of Australia's GDP is generated directly by oil and gas extraction	
	<i>Column order</i>	
a.	20% or more	
b.	10%-19.9%	
c.	5%-9.9%	
d.	1%-4.9%	
e.	Less than 1%	
f.	Don't know	
TAI_Q22a	The Petroleum Resources Rent Tax (PRRT) is a Commonwealth government tax on profits from oil and gas exploration and mining. Approximately what percentage of the Commonwealth Budget revenue do you think was generated by the PRRT last year?	Ask ALL
	<i>Single select</i>	
1.	20% or more	
2.	10%-19.9%	
3.	5%-9.9%	
4.	1%-4.9%	



5.	Less than 1%	
6.	Don't know	
TAI_Q23a	What do you believe is to blame for the increasing electricity prices of recent years? Please select all that apply. Multi select RANDOMISE	Ask ALL
1.	Coal is closing and we have no clear plan about how to replace it	
2.	Renewables can't be relied on all of the time so we need back-up power	
3.	Renewable energy is expensive	
4.	Excessive gas exports have made domestic gas really expensive	
5.	State restrictions on gas supply have made gas expensive	
6.	The privatisation of electricity generation and supply	
7.	Federal government policy uncertainty or poor policy making	
8.	Over-investment or 'gold plating' of poles and wires	
9.	Excessive profit margins of electricity companies	
10.	Don't know/none	Fixed exclusive
TAI_Q24a	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Please select one option per row. Grid row order RANDOMISE	Ask ALL
1.	State governments should develop plans to phase out coal fired power stations	
2.	State Governments should be putting in place incentives for more renewable energy	
3.	Delays or half measures on climate action and energy policy increase the risk of sudden negative economic adjustments, i.e., to jobs, electricity prices and energy security	
4.	State Governments should take a leading role in action on climate change	
5.	State Governments should act on climate change regardless of what other actors are doing Column order REVERSE	
a.	Strongly disagree	
b.	Disagree	
c.	Neither agree or disagree	
d.	Agree	
e.	Strongly agree	
f.	Don't know/none	Fixed
TAI_Q25a	Do you support or oppose the government putting public funds into infrastructure to subsidise the expansion of the coal, oil and gas industries? Please select one option only. Single select REVERSE	Ask ALL
1.	Strongly support	
2.	Support	
3.	Oppose	
4.	Strongly oppose	
5.	Don't know/none	Fixed
Q4_2021	A subsidy is financial assistance (like grants or tax breaks) provided by government to companies. To the best of your knowledge, do Australian state, territory and federal governments currently give subsidies to coal, oil and gas companies?	Ask ALL



	<i>Single select REVERSE</i>	
1.	Yes, both levels of government	
2.	Yes, just state and territory governments	
3.	Yes, just the federal government	
4.	No	
5.	Don't know/ not sure	Fixed
Q5_2021	Both levels of government subsidise coal, oil and gas companies. How much financial assistance (spending and tax breaks) do you think was provided by the state and federal governments to assist fossil fuel industries in the 2020/2021 budget year? Please enter a \$ number in the box provided.	Ask ALL
	<i>Open-ended</i>	
Q5a_2021	In the 2020/2021 budget year, state and federal governments provided \$10.3 billion to subsidise Australian fossil fuel industries. Do you support or oppose this amount of government financial subsidies to fossil fuel industries?	Ask ALL
	<i>Single select REVERSE</i>	
1.	Strongly support	
2.	Support	
3.	Oppose	
4.	Strongly oppose	
5.	Don't know/none	Fixed
Q6_2021	The Federal Government spends money each year on a range of infrastructure projects. Which of the following would you prefer the Government prioritise spending on? Please select all that apply.	Ask ALL
	<i>Multi select RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	Building new gas pipelines	
2.	Building new gas power stations	
3.	Building new renewable energy projects	
4.	Building and upgrading transmission lines to renewable energy zones	
5.	Building large scale batteries (for renewable energy storage)	
6.	Building public charging infrastructure for electric vehicles	
7.	Infrastructure upgrades at oil refineries	
8.	Direct payments to support oil refineries	
9.	Other (please specify)	Fixed
10.	Don't know/ none of the above	Fixed exclusive
TAI_Q26a	The Energy Minister has proposed supporting the gas industry for a "gas-fired recovery" following the pandemic. Would you prefer Australia's economic recovery were <u>primarily</u> powered by investment in...? Please select one option only.	Ask ALL
	<i>Single select RANDOMISE</i>	
1.	Gas	
2.	Renewable energy	
3.	Neither gas nor renewables	
4.	Other (please specify)	Fixed
5.	Don't know	Fixed

Q7_2021	The EU, UK, and the USA have recently agreed to at least halve their greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. In comparison, Australia's current emissions reduction target is 26-28% by 2030. Which of the following would you prefer Australia do? <i>Single select REVERSE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	Set a much more ambitious 2030 emissions reduction target	
2.	Set a more ambitious 2030 emissions reduction target	
3.	Keep the same 2030 emissions reduction target it has now	
4.	Set a less ambitious emissions reduction target	
5.	Set a much less ambitious emissions reduction target	
6.	Don't know/ not sure	Fixed
Q1_2021	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: <i>Dyn Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	The Federal Government should be doing more to increase electric vehicle uptake in Australia	
2.	The current Federal Government has actively discouraged electric vehicle uptake in Australia	
3.	Reducing CO2 emissions from Australian passenger vehicles is a good way to combat climate change <i>Column order REVERSE</i>	
a.	Strongly agree	
b.	Agree	
c.	Disagree	
d.	Strongly disagree	
e.	Not sure/don't know	Fixed
Q2_2021	Do you support or oppose the following policies? <i>Dyn Grid row order RANDOMISE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	A Government funded network of fast charging stations for electric vehicles	
2.	Introducing Australian national fuel efficiency (CO2) standards in line with those in Europe	
3.	Government subsidies to reduce electric vehicle purchase cost	
4.	Requiring all new apartment blocks to include electric vehicle charging stations	
5.	Removing the Luxury Car Tax from electric vehicle purchases	
6.	Fully electrify state bus fleets by 2030	
7.	Discounting registration, stamp duty and road tolls for electric vehicle owners	
8.	Government support to increase domestic manufacturing of zero-emission electric vehicles, batteries and component parts	
9.	Requiring all new car sales in Australia to be zero emissions vehicles by 2035 <i>Column order REVERSE</i>	
a.	Strongly support	
b.	Support	
c.	Oppose	
d.	Strongly oppose	
e.	Don't know/ not sure	Fixed
Q3_2021	In your opinion, which of the following are the biggest benefits of electric vehicle (EV) uptake in Australia? Please select up to three. <i>Multi select RANDOMISE</i>	Ask ALL
1.	Improved local air quality	



2.	EVs are cheaper to run and maintain	
3.	EVs are fun to drive	
4.	Reduced noise pollution	
5.	Reduced dependence on foreign oil (i.e. improved national energy security)	
6.	EVs are safer to drive	
7.	Reduced greenhouse gas emissions	
8.	Other (specify)	Fixed
9.	None of the above	Fixed exclusive
Q9_2021	Would you consider switching to electric stoves, ovens, hot water and home heating?	Ask ALL
	<i>Grid</i>	
1.	Electric stoves and ovens	
2.	Hot water supply	
3.	Home heating	
	<i>Column order REVERSE</i>	
a.	Yes	
b.	Maybe, if there were financial incentives to switch	
c.	No, I would never switch to electric	
d.	Don't know	Fixed
e.	Not applicable	Fixed
Q10_2021	The next time you are in the market for buying a car or vehicle, would you consider buying a fully electric vehicle?	Ask ALL
	<i>Multi select REVERSE</i>	
1.	Yes	
2.	Maybe, if there were financial incentives to switch	
3.	No, I would never buy a fully electric car/vehicle	
4.	Don't know	Fixed

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