

The Essential Report

08 November 2021



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Prepared By: Essential Research

Data Supplied by:



Our researchers are members of The Research Society.



About this poll

This report summarises the results of a fortnightly omnibus conducted by Essential Research with data provided by Qualtrics. The survey was conducted online from 3rd November to 7th November 2021 and is based on 1,089 respondents.

The weighting efficiency applied to the results at a national level is 91%, which gives an effective sample size of 991. The maximal margin of error at this effective sample size is $\pm 3.1\%$ (95% confidence level).

The full methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix at the end of the report.

Note that due to rounding, not all tables necessarily total 100% and subtotals may also vary.

Performance of Scott Morrison

Q Do you approve or disapprove of the job Scott Morrison is doing as Prime Minister?

| | Nov'21 | Oct'21 | Sep'21 | Aug'21 | Jul'21 | Jun'21 | May'21 | Apr'21 | End Mar'21 | Mid Mar'21 | Feb'21 | Jan'21 | Dec'20 |
|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| TOTAL: Approve | 48% | 54% | 50% | 50% | 51% | 57% | 58% | 54% | 57% | 62% | 65% | 61% | 62% |
| TOTAL: Disapprove | 42% | 37% | 41% | 40% | 40% | 36% | 32% | 37% | 35% | 29% | 28% | 30% | 28% |
| Don't know | 9% | 9% | 9% | 10% | 9% | 8% | 10% | 9% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 9% | 11% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 1,097 | 1,100 | 1,098 | 1,099 | 1,104 | 1,092 | 1,368 | 1,100 | 1,124 | 1,109 | 1,084 | 1,071 |

| TOTAL: Approve | Nov'21 | Oct'21 | Sep'21 | Aug'21 | Jul'21 | Jun'21 | May'21 | Apr'21 |
|----------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| NSW | 51% | 54% | 48% | 50% | 53% | 59% | 64% | 55% |
| VIC | 49% | 52% | 47% | 45% | 49% | 52% | 51% | 51% |
| QLD | 46% | 60% | 56% | 54% | 49% | 60% | 60% | 57% |
| SA | 45% | 43% | 47% | 53% | 50% | 56% | 52% | 50% |
| WA | 50% | 51% | 58% | 53% | 50% | 50% | 63% | 56% |

- The Prime Minister's approval rating has dropped to 48%, the lowest of the last 12 months (54% last month), with disapproval at 42% (37% in October).
- The drop in approval has been driven by attitudes in Queensland, where approval dropped from 60% in October to 46% in November. All other states remained consistent with last month.



Performance of Anthony Albanese

Q Do you approve or disapprove of the job Anthony Albanese is doing as Opposition Leader?

| | Nov'21 | Oct'21 | Sep'21 | Aug'21 | Jul'21 | Jun'21 | May'21 | Apr'21 | Mar'21 | Feb'21 | Jan'21 | Dec'20 |
|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| TOTAL: Approve | 40% | 41% | 37% | 34% | 41% | 39% | 39% | 39% | 41% | 40% | 42% | 43% |
| TOTAL: Disapprove | 35% | 34% | 36% | 38% | 35% | 36% | 35% | 34% | 32% | 33% | 33% | 29% |
| Don't know | 25% | 25% | 27% | 28% | 24% | 24% | 25% | 27% | 27% | 27% | 25% | 28% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 1,097 | 1,100 | 1,098 | 1,099 | 1,104 | 1,092 | 1,368 | 1,124 | 1,109 | 1,084 | 1,071 |

- The Opposition Leader's approval rating is now at 40%, consistent with last month (41%). There has also been no change in either disapproval (35% in November, 34% last month) or among those unsure on the opposition leader's job performance (25% in both October and November).

Preferred Prime Minister

Q Who do you think would make the better Prime Minister out of Scott Morrison and Anthony Albanese?

| | Nov'21 | Oct'21 | Sep'21 | Aug'21 | Jul'21 | Jun'21 | May'21 | Apr'21 | Mar'21 | Feb'21 | Jan'21 | Dec'20 |
|------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Scott Morrison | 44% | 45% | 47% | 45% | 46% | 48% | 50% | 47% | 52% | 52% | 51% | 50% |
| Anthony Albanese | 28% | 29% | 26% | 26% | 28% | 28% | 24% | 28% | 26% | 24% | 25% | 24% |
| Don't know | 28% | 26% | 27% | 29% | 26% | 24% | 26% | 25% | 22% | 24% | 25% | 26% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 1,097 | 1,100 | 1,098 | 1,099 | 1,104 | 1,092 | 1,368 | 1,124 | 1,109 | 1,084 | 1,071 |

- There has been no change in preferred Prime Minister from last month, with 44% opting for Scott Morrison and 28% Anthony Albanese.
- 28% of participants don't know who would make the better PM.



Views towards re-electing the federal Coalition government

Q Which is closer to your own view about the federal Coalition government?

| | Nov'21 | Aug'21 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Deserves to be re-elected | 34% | 36% |
| Time to give someone else a go | 45% | 41% |
| Unsure | 21% | 23% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 1,100 |

- 45% of Australians think it's time to change federal governments, while 34% think the Coalition deserves to be re-elected.
- This sentiment is consistent with results in August, when 41% felt it was time for a change and 36% want the Coalition re-elected.

Party trust to handle issues

Q Which party would you trust most to handle the following issues?

| | Liberal | Labor | Unsure | Difference | Difference Sep'21 |
|---|---------|-------|--------|------------|-------------------|
| National Security | 38% | 32% | 29% | +6 | +13 |
| Management of the economy | 41% | 33% | 26% | +8 | +10 |
| Maintaining international relations | 33% | 36% | 30% | -3 | +5 |
| Ensuring the quality of Australia's health system | 33% | 40% | 27% | -7 | -3 |
| Ensuring a quality education for all children | 32% | 40% | 27% | -8 | -4 |
| Housing affordability | 27% | 39% | 34% | -12 | -9 |
| Protecting Australian jobs and protection of local industries | 32% | 41% | 26% | -9 | -9 |
| Addressing climate change | 26% | 39% | 35% | -13 | -13 |
| Fair wages and workplace conditions | 29% | 45% | 26% | -16 | -18 |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 1,089 | 1,089 | | 1,094 |

- In the time since the fall-out from the government's AUKUS submarine announcement and Scott Morrison's COP26 performance, fewer people trust the Liberal party to maintain international relations and handle national security.
- In September, more people trusted the Liberal government to maintain international relations than the Labor party (37% trusted the Liberals, 32% Labor). Now 36% trust Labor and 33% trust the Liberals.
- 38% of people now trust the Liberals to handle national security (41% in September) while trust in the Labor party has increased from 28% to 32%.



Importance of Australia’s international reputation

Q How important is it that Australia has a good reputation among its international neighbours and trading partners?

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| Very important | 54% | 57% | 52% | 46% | 53% | 63% | 60% | 55% | 54% | 50% |
| Fairly important | 39% | 36% | 42% | 45% | 41% | 32% | 37% | 41% | 40% | 38% |
| Not that important | 4% | 5% | 4% | 6% | 3% | 4% | 2% | 4% | 5% | 9% |
| Not at all important | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 4% |
| TOTAL: Important | 94% | 93% | 95% | 92% | 93% | 96% | 97% | 96% | 94% | 88% |
| TOTAL: Not important | 6% | 7% | 5% | 8% | 7% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 6% | 12% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- Australia’s international reputation is seen to be of great value, with 54% saying it is very important to maintain a good reputation among international neighbours and trading partners and a further 39% saying it is fairly important.
- Australia’s international reputation is most important to those aged over 55 (63% saying it is very important) and Labor voters (60%).



Scott Morrison’s impact on Australia’s international reputation

Q Thinking about the Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Australia’s international reputation, which of the following is closer to your view?

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|---|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| As Australia’s PM, Scott Morrison has undermined Australia’s international reputation | 47% | 47% | 46% | 47% | 47% | 46% | 67% | 28% | 74% | 52% |
| As Australia’s PM, Scott Morrison has enhanced Australia’s international reputation | 27% | 33% | 22% | 27% | 26% | 29% | 14% | 50% | 14% | 19% |
| Unsure | 26% | 20% | 32% | 26% | 27% | 25% | 19% | 22% | 12% | 29% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- Around half of people (47%) believe Scott Morrison has undermined Australia’s international reputation during his tenure as Prime Minister – more than those who think the country’s reputation has been enhanced (27%).
- Coalition voters are most likely to say Morrison has enhanced the country’s reputation (50%), however less than a fifth of all other voters share this view.



Views towards Australia’s international reputation

Q Thinking about Australia’s international reputation, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| | TOTAL: Agree | TOTAL: Disagree | Strongly agree | Somewhat agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat disagree | Strongly disagree |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| It's important that Australia is trusted by its allies | 81% | 5% | 48% | 33% | 14% | 3% | 3% |
| The world needs to work together if we are to address big challenges like climate change and pandemics | 78% | 8% | 51% | 27% | 14% | 4% | 4% |
| As a middle-sized power Australia's international reputation is important | 76% | 5% | 36% | 40% | 18% | 3% | 2% |
| Australia needs to put its own interests first, even at the cost of international relationships | 56% | 17% | 24% | 32% | 27% | 12% | 5% |

| | TOTAL: Agree | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--|--------------|-------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------------|
| | | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| It's important that Australia is trusted by its allies | 81% | | 79% | 82% | 70% | 82% | 90% | 83% | 84% | 80% | 76% |
| The world needs to work together if we are to address big challenges like climate change and pandemics | 78% | | 75% | 81% | 69% | 79% | 85% | 83% | 79% | 78% | 69% |
| As a middle-sized power Australia's international reputation is important | 76% | | 74% | 79% | 63% | 78% | 86% | 78% | 81% | 80% | 67% |
| Australia needs to put its own interests first, even at the cost of international relationships | 56% | | 58% | 54% | 45% | 56% | 65% | 48% | 72% | 35% | 61% |
| Base (n) | | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |



- People recognise the importance of international co-operation, with 81% agreeing it's important for Australia to be a trusted ally and 78% agreeing that global issues require countries to work together.
- People aged 18-34 were less likely than those aged over 55 to agree that Australia needs to be trusted by its allies (70% to 90%), that the world needs to work together to address challenges (69% to 85%) and that as a middle-sized power Australia's international reputation is important (63% to 86%).
- While just over half agree that Australia needs to put its own interests first, even at the cost of international relationships (56%), this is fewer than the agreement with other statements on the importance of international trust and international relations.



Australia’s international reputation and economy

Q Thinking about Australia’s international reputation and economy, which of the following is closer to your view?

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| Australia’s international reputation doesn’t matter, as long as we’re doing what’s right for our economy | 30% | 34% | 25% | 37% | 29% | 25% | 22% | 38% | 24% | 40% |
| Australia’s international reputation matters as it affects our economic performance | 70% | 66% | 75% | 63% | 71% | 75% | 78% | 62% | 76% | 60% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- More than twice the number of people think ‘Australia’s international reputation matters as it affects our economic performance’ than ‘Australia’s international reputation doesn’t matter, as long as we’re doing what’s right for our economy’ (70% to 30%).
- Those most likely to think that international reputation matters include women (75%), those aged over 55 (75%), those voting for Labor (78%) or the Greens (76%).



Federal government response to Covid-19

Q Overall, how would you rate the **federal government's** response to the Covid-19 outbreak?

| | 08/11 | 25/10 | 11/10 | 27/09 | 13/09 | 30/08 | 16/08 | 02/08 | 19/07 | 05/07 | 07/06 | 24/05 | 12/04 |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Very poor | 11% | 12% | 12% | 12% | 16% | 16% | 13% | 16% | 13% | 12% | 10% | 6% | 7% |
| Quite poor | 18% | 19% | 18% | 18% | 20% | 20% | 22% | 19% | 19% | 17% | 14% | 12% | 10% |
| Neither good nor poor | 23% | 24% | 25% | 25% | 21% | 24% | 24% | 28% | 23% | 26% | 22% | 25% | 21% |
| Quite good | 36% | 32% | 32% | 34% | 28% | 29% | 32% | 28% | 32% | 33% | 38% | 40% | 40% |
| Very good | 12% | 14% | 13% | 11% | 15% | 10% | 9% | 10% | 14% | 11% | 15% | 18% | 22% |
| TOTAL: Poor | 29% | 31% | 30% | 30% | 35% | 36% | 35% | 35% | 31% | 30% | 24% | 18% | 17% |
| TOTAL: Good | 48% | 46% | 45% | 45% | 43% | 39% | 41% | 38% | 46% | 44% | 53% | 58% | 62% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 1,781 | 1,097 | 1,094 | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,098 | 1,100 | 1,099 | 1,104 | 1,100 | 1,368 |

| TOTAL: Good | 08/11 | 25/10 | 11/10 | 27/09 | 13/09 | 30/08 | 16/08 | 02/08 | 19/07 | 05/07 | 07/06 | 24/05 | 12/04 |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| NSW | 50% | 50% | 48% | 48% | 41% | 34% | 34% | 39% | 49% | 44% | 62% | 56% | 66% |
| VIC | 45% | 34% | 37% | 39% | 39% | 35% | 37% | 33% | 39% | 40% | 42% | 57% | 55% |
| QLD | 49% | 46% | 50% | 44% | 43% | 45% | 44% | 40% | 46% | 48% | 54% | 56% | 63% |
| SA | 47% | 52% | 46% | 42% | 54% | 48% | 45% | 48% | 51% | 48% | 58% | 66% | 62% |
| WA | 54% | 46% | 49% | 48% | 51% | 51% | 53% | 37% | 51% | 42% | 49% | 56% | 65% |

- 48% of people rate the federal government's response to the Covid-19 outbreak as quite good or very good (similar to last month, 46%), with 29% rating it as quite poor or very poor.
- Positive rating of the government's handling of the pandemic has jumped in Victoria (34% to 45%) as the state's lockdown restrictions are eased.



State government response to Covid-19

Q How would you rate your **state government's** response to the Covid-19 outbreak?

| TOTAL: Good | 08/11 | 25/10 | 11/10 | 27/09 | 13/09 | 30/08 | 16/08 | 02/08 | 19/07 | 05/07 | 07/06 | 24/05 | 12/04 |
|-------------|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| NSW | 57% | 57% | 55% | 53% | 46% | 40% | 42% | 47% | 54% | 57% | 69% | 68% | 73% |
| VIC | 56% | 43% | 46% | 44% | 50% | 44% | 56% | 54% | 49% | 50% | 48% | 63% | 58% |
| QLD | 62% | 59% | 68% | 62% | 65% | 67% | 66% | 60% | 62% | 61% | 65% | 68% | 72% |
| SA | 62% | 66% | 67% | 55% | 67% | 76% | 68% | 73% | 68% | 67% | 67% | 71% | 75% |
| WA | 78% | 78% | 80% | 82% | 87% | 78% | 87% | 82% | 77% | 86% | 75% | 77% | 84% |

- Rating of Victoria's state government increased this week, from 43% a fortnight ago to 56% - equivalent to the positive rating in NSW (57% positive rating).

Uptake of a Covid-19 vaccine

Q The Covid-19 vaccine rollout is underway in Australia.

Which of the following best describes your situation?

| | 08/11 | 11/10 | 27/09 | 13/09 |
|--|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| I've already had the first dose of a Covid-19 vaccine / I've already had both doses of a Covid-19 vaccine | 85% | 81% | 75% | 69% |
| I've booked my vaccination and am waiting to get my first dose of a Covid-19 vaccine | 3% | 6% | 9% | 11% |
| I will get vaccinated but haven't booked my vaccination yet | 6% | 7% | 10% | 14% |
| I'd never get vaccinated | 6% | 7% | 7% | 6% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 1,097 | 1,094 | 1,100 |

| | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| I've already had the first dose of a Covid-19 vaccine / I've already had both doses of a Covid-19 vaccine | 86% | 88% | 86% | 72% |
| I've booked my vaccination and am waiting to get my first dose of a Covid-19 vaccine | 3% | 4% | 5% | 5% |
| I will get vaccinated but haven't booked my vaccination yet | 7% | 4% | 6% | 6% |
| I'd never get vaccinated | 4% | 3% | 3% | 16% |
| Base (n) | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- Uptake of the Covid-19 vaccine continues to increase, with 85% who have received at least a first dose. A further 3% are waiting to receive a first dose, even though they have already booked in.
- Overall, 6% of people say they do not intend to get a vaccine, but this is highest among those intending to vote for a minor party at 16% (e.g. One Nation or UAP) or an independent candidate at the next federal election.



Uptake of a Covid-19 vaccine - Children

Q Everyone in Australia aged 12 years and over is currently eligible for a Covid-19 vaccination, and children aged 5 to 11 could also be eligible by the end of November.

Once a vaccine becomes available to your child(ren), which of the following best describes when you would get your child(ren) vaccinated?

[Asked only to those with dependent children in the household]

| | 08/11 | 17/08 |
|--|-------|-------|
| I'd get my child(ren) vaccinated as soon as possible | 65% | 50% |
| I'd get my child(ren) vaccinated, but wouldn't do it straight away | 28% | 41% |
| I'd never get my child(ren) vaccinated | 7% | 10% |
| Base (n) | 390 | 392 |

| | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| I'd get my child(ren) vaccinated as soon as possible | 69% | 74% | 74% | 47% |
| I'd get my child(ren) vaccinated, but wouldn't do it straight away | 26% | 20% | 26% | 33% |
| I'd never get my child(ren) vaccinated | 6% | 6% | 0% | 20% |
| Base (n) | 126 | 147 | 31 | 44 |



- 65% of those with dependent children would now get their child(ren) vaccinated at the earliest opportunity (up from 50% in August), with a further 28% who would wait before vaccinating.
- Consistent with the wider population of adults, just a small minority (6%) of parents would not vaccinate their children against Covid-19.
- Parents voting for a minor or independent party (e.g. One Nation/UAP) are most likely to say they would not vaccinate their children (20%).



Impact of government’s net zero emissions 2050 target

Q The federal government recently announced its plan for Australia to reach a net zero emissions target by 2050.

Do you think committing to get the country to net zero emissions by 2050 is enough action on climate change for Australia, or do we need to do more?

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| Net zero by 2050 is enough action on climate change for Australia | 37% | 44% | 30% | 35% | 35% | 40% | 29% | 51% | 13% | 46% |
| Net zero by 2050 is not enough action on climate change for Australia and we need to do more | 43% | 42% | 44% | 46% | 43% | 41% | 52% | 32% | 78% | 33% |
| Unsure | 20% | 14% | 25% | 19% | 22% | 19% | 19% | 17% | 9% | 21% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- More people think Australia needs to do more than its current 2050 commitments than those who think 2050 is enough (43% to 37%).
- Those who want to see Australia take greater action against climate change include those aged 18-34 (46%), Labor voters (52%) and Greens voters (78%).



Understanding of government’s net zero emissions 2050 target

Q Which of the following best describes your understanding of the federal government’s plan for Australia to reach a net zero emissions target by 2050?

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| It sets a clear target and provides a credible plan for how to get there | 21% | 25% | 18% | 23% | 20% | 20% | 17% | 32% | 13% | 14% |
| It sets a clear target but does not provide a credible plan for how to get there | 36% | 37% | 36% | 40% | 36% | 33% | 38% | 40% | 35% | 31% |
| It neither sets a clear target nor provides a credible plan for how to get there | 22% | 25% | 20% | 16% | 20% | 30% | 27% | 12% | 43% | 28% |
| Unsure | 20% | 14% | 26% | 21% | 23% | 17% | 17% | 16% | 8% | 27% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- Just one-in-five people think the government’s plan to achieve its emission targets are clear and provide a credible plan (21%).
- The majority think the plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 is not credible. 36% say while they understand the target, the plan is not credible and a further 22% think the target is unclear and the plan not credible.
- Among Coalition voters, 40% say while the target is clear, the plan is not credible.



Increasing emissions target ambitions

Q In addition to its plan for Australia to reach a net zero emissions target by 2050, the federal government plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 26–28 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.

Which of the following approaches to acting on climate change and reducing emissions do you think is more important for Australia?

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| Set a more ambitious target for 2030 | 43% | 42% | 45% | 41% | 43% | 45% | 55% | 33% | 69% | 39% |
| Set a net zero target for 2050 | 25% | 28% | 22% | 31% | 26% | 19% | 21% | 36% | 22% | 19% |
| Not set any targets for 2030 or 2050 | 11% | 13% | 9% | 7% | 9% | 17% | 7% | 15% | 3% | 22% |
| Unsure | 20% | 17% | 24% | 21% | 21% | 19% | 17% | 16% | 7% | 21% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- 43% of people want to see a more ambitious target set for 2030 in order to achieve the net zero emission target in 2050. A quarter (25%) think setting targets for just 2050 is enough and 11% oppose setting any emissions targets.



Outcomes of COP26 – Global and local impact

Q How confident are you that the UN climate summit (COP26) will result in meaningful changes to address climate change and reduce emissions globally and locally (in Australia)? **GLOBALLY**

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| Very confident | 9% | 10% | 8% | 15% | 8% | 4% | 8% | 10% | 4% | 11% |
| Fairly confident | 27% | 26% | 28% | 30% | 34% | 17% | 31% | 29% | 32% | 12% |
| Not that confident | 34% | 32% | 36% | 32% | 29% | 41% | 39% | 32% | 32% | 37% |
| Not confident at all | 18% | 23% | 13% | 10% | 16% | 27% | 13% | 19% | 22% | 29% |
| Unsure | 13% | 9% | 16% | 13% | 13% | 11% | 9% | 9% | 10% | 10% |
| TOTAL: Confident | 35% | 36% | 35% | 45% | 43% | 20% | 39% | 39% | 36% | 24% |
| TOTAL: Not confident | 52% | 55% | 49% | 42% | 44% | 68% | 52% | 51% | 55% | 66% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |



Q How confident are you that the UN climate summit (COP26) will result in meaningful changes to address climate change and reduce emissions globally and locally (in Australia)? **LOCALLY**

| | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| Very confident | 9% | 11% | 8% | 14% | 10% | 5% | 11% | 12% | 4% | 6% |
| Fairly confident | 28% | 28% | 27% | 31% | 32% | 22% | 24% | 38% | 17% | 27% |
| Not that confident | 30% | 26% | 33% | 28% | 25% | 36% | 34% | 27% | 30% | 25% |
| Not confident at all | 22% | 26% | 19% | 14% | 22% | 30% | 23% | 15% | 41% | 34% |
| Unsure | 11% | 8% | 13% | 13% | 11% | 9% | 9% | 8% | 8% | 8% |
| TOTAL: Confident | 37% | 40% | 35% | 45% | 42% | 26% | 35% | 50% | 21% | 32% |
| TOTAL: Not confident | 52% | 52% | 52% | 42% | 47% | 65% | 56% | 42% | 72% | 59% |
| Base (n) | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |

- Around half of people are not confident that the COP26 summit will result in meaningful change – either globally or locally (both 52%).
- Those aged over 55 have less confidence in change due to COP26 (68% not confident in global change, 68% not confident in global change, 65% not confident in local change).
- People voting for the Greens are more confident that COP26 will result in global change than local change (36% to 21%).



Attitudes to climate change and COP26

Q The UN climate summit (COP26) started on October 31 in Glasgow, Scotland. During the summit, world leaders are expected to develop the next emissions standards to slow global warming and keep temperature rise below 1.5C.

Australia is one of 200 countries expected to outline their emissions reduction goals for 2030.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| TOTAL: Agree | 08/11 | 11/10 |
|--|-------|-------|
| Australian businesses have the opportunity to develop expertise in renewable energy and innovative technologies that other countries will demand | 71% | 64% |
| Australian manufacturing could benefit from cheap electricity if more solar and wind farms were built | 69% | 63% |
| Australia cannot afford to be locked out of the EU or other trade markets for failing to adopt a net zero emissions by 2050 target | 66% | 57% |
| Australia needs to follow other countries' lead and make climate change a priority, or risk being left behind | 65% | 57% |

| | TOTAL: Agree | TOTAL: Disagree | Strongly agree | Somewhat agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat disagree | Strongly disagree |
|--|--------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Australian businesses have the opportunity to develop expertise in renewable energy and innovative technologies that other countries will demand | 71% | 6% | 35% | 35% | 23% | 4% | 2% |
| Australian manufacturing could benefit from cheap electricity if more solar and wind farms were built | 69% | 9% | 37% | 33% | 21% | 5% | 5% |
| Australia cannot afford to be locked out of the EU or other trade markets for failing to adopt a net zero emissions by 2050 target | 66% | 8% | 33% | 33% | 25% | 5% | 3% |
| Australia needs to follow other countries' lead and make climate change a priority, or risk being left behind | 65% | 12% | 34% | 32% | 23% | 7% | 5% |

| | TOTAL: Agree | Total | Gender | | Age Group | | | Federal Voting Intention | | | |
|--|--------------|-------|--------|--------|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| | | | Male | Female | 18-34 | 35-54 | 55+ | Labor | TOTAL: Coalition | Greens | TOTAL: Other |
| Australian businesses have the opportunity to develop expertise in renewable energy and innovative technologies that other countries will demand | 71% | | 70% | 72% | 59% | 70% | 81% | 75% | 74% | 75% | 64% |
| Australian manufacturing could benefit from cheap electricity if more solar and wind farms were built | 69% | | 66% | 73% | 62% | 72% | 74% | 76% | 70% | 77% | 55% |
| Australia cannot afford to be locked out of the EU or other trade markets for failing to adopt a net zero emissions by 2050 target | 66% | | 63% | 69% | 57% | 66% | 74% | 71% | 66% | 76% | 60% |
| Australia needs to follow other countries' lead and make climate change a priority, or risk being left behind | 65% | | 63% | 67% | 58% | 70% | 66% | 71% | 66% | 79% | 50% |
| Base (n) | | 1,089 | 534 | 555 | 336 | 374 | 379 | 354 | 401 | 106 | 125 |



- Since the exposure of COP26, more people are engaged with both the opportunities and threats from the country not acting on climate change and reducing emissions.
- 71% now agree that Australian businesses have the opportunity to develop expertise in renewable energy and innovative technologies that other countries will demand, up from 64% last month. Similarly, agreement that Australian manufacturing could benefit from cheap electricity if more solar and wind farms were built has increased from 63% to 69%.
- At the same time, agreement with the risks of not acting have increased. 66% agree that Australia cannot afford to be locked out of the EU or other trade markets for failing to adopt a net zero emissions by 2050 target (up from 57% before the summit) and 65% agree that Australia needs to follow other countries' lead and make climate change a priority, or risk being left behind.
- Those voting Labor and Greens are more likely than those voting Coalition or other to agree with the risks of not acting on climate change.



Appendix: Household income definitions*

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| TOTAL: Lower Income | Up to \$51,999 per year Total of all wages/salaries, government benefits, pensions, allowances and other income that your household usually receives (GROSS – before tax and superannuation deductions) |
| TOTAL: Mid Income | \$52,000 to \$103,999 per year Total of all wages/salaries, government benefits, pensions, allowances and other income that your household usually receives (GROSS – before tax and superannuation deductions) |
| TOTAL: High Income | More than \$104,000 per year Total of all wages/salaries, government benefits, pensions, allowances and other income that your household usually receives (GROSS – before tax and superannuation deductions) |

Appendix: Methodology, margin of error and professional standards

The data gathered for this report is gathered from a fortnightly online omnibus run by Essential Research with sample provided by Qualtrics from online panels.

The online omnibus is active from the Wednesday night of each week and closed on the following Sunday. The target population is all Australian residents aged 18+. Participants were invited to participate and completed the survey online without an interviewer present and incentives were offered for participation.

The response rate varies each week, but usually delivers 1000+ interviews. Quotas are applied to be representative of the target population by age, gender and location.

RIM weighting is applied to the data using information sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). The factors used in the weighting are age, gender, location and party ID.

Information for the weighting efficiency, effective sample size and margin of error for each poll (from June 2021) can be found here: <https://essentialvision.com.au/about-this-poll>

Each fortnight, the team at Essential Media Communications discusses issues that are topical and a series of questions are devised to put to the Australian public. Some questions are repeated regularly (such as political preference and leadership approval), while others are unique to each week and reflect current media and

social issues. Full text for standard voting and regular political preferences can be found in the link above. No questions were asked prior to these questions which have material influence on results.

Participants not eligible to vote in federal elections (either for age, residency or other reasons) are excluded from voting intention. Eligible participants are able to select 'Unsure' for voting intention. They were then asked a 'leaner' question which also included an 'Unsure' option. Participants answering 'Unsure' are NOT excluded from published results, or any subsequent questions. 2 party preferred (2PP) calculations use stated preference. Preference flows from previous federal and state elections are only used for participants answering 'Unsure' for stated preference.

All Essential Research staff hold Research Society membership and are bound by professional codes of behaviour. This research is compliant with the Australian Polling Council Quality Mark standards.

