

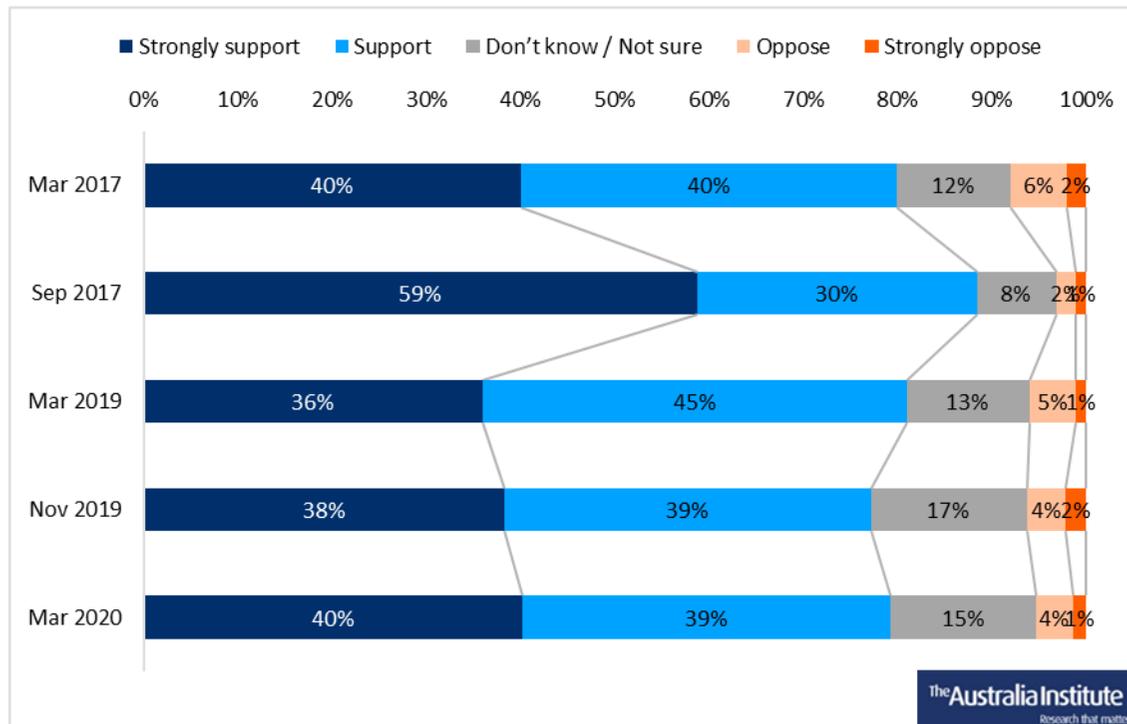
Date	Context	Announcement
31 March 2016ⁱ	Media release	Australia Institute releases its first poll showing that most Australians (65%) support a national anti-corruption body.
14 January 2017ⁱⁱ	Open letter	41 prominent Australians sign an Australia Institute open letter calling for a national anti-corruption body.
8 February 2017	Parliament	Senate Select Committee on a National Integrity Commission forms.
17 August 2017ⁱⁱⁱ	Conference	The Australia Institute holds the Accountability & The Law conference at Parliament House, including the case for a federal anti-corruption commission.
13 September 2017^{iv}	Committee inquiry	Senate Select Committee on a National Integrity Commission releases its report, and ceases to exist. The report recommends that the government give careful consideration to establishing a broad integrity and corruption Commonwealth agency. Greens dissenting report recommends government begin work immediately on a national integrity commission. Additional comments from Nick Xenophon Team and Senator Hinch also make the case for a national integrity commission.
October 2017	Media release	The National Integrity Committee forms under the auspices of The Australia Institute.
27 November 2017^v	7:30 report	National Integrity Committee releases its principles for designing a national integrity commission, its first piece of work. The National Integrity Committee featured in a 7:30 report earlier that month.
17 January 2018^{vi}	Media release	The Australia Institute runs its first TV ads on this issue.
30 January 2018^{vii}	Press conference	Labor announces it will implement a national integrity commission if it is elected. Turnbull does not rule out the proposal.
January 2018^{viii}	Press conference (Dec 2018)	In December 2018, the Coalition government says that January 2018 is when they “began carefully considering options for a national anti-corruption body”.
February 2018		The National Integrity Committee meets with Attorney-General Christian Porter.
March 2018^x	News story	Attorney-General Christian Porter says the Coalition is considering “detailed models” for a national anti-corruption body.
9 April 2018^x	Media release	The National Integrity Committee releases its blueprint analysis for a national integrity commission.
May 2018		The National Integrity Committee meets with Attorney-General Christian Porter for a second time.

Date	Context	Announcement
June–August 2018 ^{xi}	News story	In the aftermath of the Turnbull leadership spill, it emerges that a detailed cabinet submission on national anti-corruption body had been prepared in June and was due to be considered by federal cabinet until derailed by leadership challenge.
28 September 2018 ^{xii}	Media release	National Integrity Committee releases their implementation plan for a national integrity commission.
November 2018 ^{xiii}	Parliament	House of Representatives passes Senate motion calling for national integrity commission; for tactical reasons, the Coalition does not vote against the motion.
25 November 2018 ^{xiv}	Open letter	Open letter from 34 former judges and National Integrity Committee calls for a national integrity commission to be legislated.
26 November 2018 ^{xv}	Parliament	Cathy McGowan’s National Integrity Commission bill is introduced. Bills from Greens and Centre Alliance are introduced later.
13 December 2018 ^{xvi}	Govt media release	Australian Government “will establish a Commonwealth Integrity Commission (CIC) to strengthen integrity arrangements across the federal public sector.” Consultation paper released.
18 December 2018 ^{xvii}	Govt media release	Panel of experts to advise on CIC legislation announced.
23 January 2019 ^{xviii}	Media release	National Integrity Committee identifies the necessary powers for an effective national integrity commission.
1 February 2019 ^{xix}	Media release	Submissions close for government consultation paper. Panel of experts expected to have completed its advice to government.
4 April 2019 ^{xx}	Budget	2019–20 Budget allocates \$104 million over four years to establish CIC and \$2.2 million for ACLEI to be reformed as division of CIC.
3 May 2019 ^{xxi}	News story	Labor say they will legislate an integrity commission <i>within 12 months</i> if elected.
26 May 2019 ^{xxii}	Govt media release	Porter identifies the integrity commission as having progressed to now having “ <u>an implementation focus</u> ”, and identifies it as one of several “ <u>priority</u> ” reforms “which I will be working to achieve <u>early</u> in the 46th Parliament” (note his greatest priority was given as family law court restructuring).
31 July 2019 ^{xxiii}	Press conference	Following the Crown Casino allegations, the National Integrity Committee and federal crossbenchers call for a national integrity commission “with teeth”.

Date	Context	Announcement
1 August 2019^{xxiv}	Parliament	On a Labor motion calling on the government to establish an integrity commission, Porter tells Parliament that “It’ll be done a lot quicker than the promise those opposite made as to when they would do it; <u>it’ll be a lot quicker than the 12 months that they promised.</u> ” It’s not clear if Porter means the legislation will be introduced within 12 months or the commission will exist within 12 months, but the context is that the Labor Opposition promised an integrity commission within 12 months of being elected.
9 September 2019^{xxv}	Parliament	Senate passes bill that would establish an integrity commission. The bill will not pass the House.
11 September 2019^{xxvi}	Govt statement (news story); parliament	Porter says: “I am finalising a draft bill to form the basis of public consultation and <u>expect to finalise a bill by the end of the year</u> ”, mirroring his statement in parliament: “As to the question of when, I expect that we will have a full draft out for public consultation in the not-too-distant future. I’d expect that that would be <u>before the end of the year.</u> ” And “The shadow Attorney-General and I will have a great deal of work to do together <u>over the coming months</u> on this body” Earlier that week, the Senate passed a motion calling for an integrity commission with stronger powers than the proposed CIC.
21 November 2019^{xxvii}	Llew: Statement (news story); Karvelas: ABC News 24	Nationals MP Llew O’Brien says he has “serious concerns” about government’s CIC proposal being too weak, and may cross the floor. The Guardian says the legislation is expected “in the coming weeks”. Porter will release the draft legislation “ <u>shortly</u> ”. Karvelas: “What does shortly mean? What sort of time frame?” Porter: “ <u>I’m sure you’d love an exact date ... It will be shortly</u> ”.
17 January 2020^{xxviii}	News story	Porter says the national integrity commission will “ <u>take as long as necessary</u> ” because of the need for “extensive consultation”. Since it is the holiday period, “I have decided to release the full 300-plus pages of the draft <u>early in the new year</u> ”.
3 March 2020^{xxix}	Senate Estimates	Public servants confirm they have presented multiple versions of the exposure draft to the Attorney-General in a “continuous process of refining”.
22 May 2020^{xxx}	News story	Porter says that the draft legislation “was ready for release” but derailed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Does not commit to a timeline, instead saying it will be released “ <u>at an appropriate time</u> ”.

Date	Context	Announcement
16 June 2020 ^{xxxix}	AG doorstep	Porter says he will “restart” talks to “test” the views of crossbenchers who think the CIC as planned would be too weak. Will not commit to setting up CIC in this term. He says “the first time I’ve looked at that legislation since this pandemic hit was actually last week.” Crossbenchers call for a national integrity commission “with teeth”.
24 August 2020 ^{xxxix}	Media release	Transparency International calls for strong, fit-for-purpose national integrity commission.
31 August 2020 ^{xxxix}	Media release	Crossbenchers meet with Attorney-General Christian Porter. Helen Haines reports following the meeting that “The timeline for the government bill remains unclear”.
1 September 2020 ^{xxxix}	Parliament; media release	Helen Haines introduces legislation to establish the Australian Federal Integrity Commission. The move is welcomed by other crossbenchers and the National Integrity Committee. Australia Institute polling shows 3 in 4 Australians want a commission this year.
6 October 2020 ^{xxxix}	Budget	2020–21 Budget includes no extra funding for the CIC. Expected average staffing level for 2020–21 for the CIC is 76.
13 October 2020 ^{xxxix}	Rennick: Sky News; Porter: news story	Senator Gerard Rennick says “we don’t support a national integrity commission”, a comment he later walks back. Senator Simon Birmingham says COVID-19 is the priority. Porter says the draft legislation is ready for release but will not release it as there are “more immediate priorities”.
15 October 2020 ^{xxxix}	Twitter	Coalition talking points tell MPs the integrity commission draft legislation will be released “ <u>as soon as possible</u> after the more immediate priorities concerning the management of the COVID recovery have been dealt with”.
21 October 2020	Senate Estimates	Attorney-General’s Department says that an exposure draft for a national integrity commission was sent to Porter in December 2019.

Figure: Support for a Commonwealth Integrity Commission over time (Australia Institute polling)



Note: The wording of this question has changed somewhat over time.

March 2017: “A National Independent Commission Against Corruption would investigate and expose corruption in federal politics. Similar Commissions exist in every state, but there is no independent corruption watchdog at the federal level. Do you support or oppose establishing a National Independent Commission Against Corruption?”

September 2017: “A National Independent Commission Against Corruption would investigate and expose corruption in federal politics. Do you support or oppose establishing a National Independent Commission Against Corruption?”

From March 2019: “A Commonwealth Integrity Commission would investigate corruption within federal law enforcement, the public service, service providers, contractors, federal parliamentarians and their staff. Do you support or oppose setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission?”

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- ⁱ <https://www.tai.org.au/content/polling-voters-support-national-icac>
- ⁱⁱ <https://www.tai.org.au/content/open-letter-calls-federal-watchdog-wake-latest-round-politician-rort-scandals>
- ⁱⁱⁱ https://nb.tai.org.au/accountability_conference
- ^{iv} https://www.aph.gov.au/select_integritycommission
- ^v <https://www.tai.org.au/content/corruption-fighters-and-former-judges-design-national-corruption-watchdog>
<https://www.abc.net.au/7.30/former-judges-back-call-for-a-federal-corruption/9113700>
- ^{vi} <https://www.tai.org.au/content/federal-icac-demands-reaching-fever-pitch>
- ^{vii} <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/jan/30/labor-promises-federal-integrity-commission-if-it-wins-the-next-election>
- ^{viii} <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/commonwealth-government-establish-new-integrity-commission>
- ^{ix} <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/mar/29/labor-uses-bruce-billson-censure-to-goad-coalition-over-federal-icac>
- ^x <https://www.tai.org.au/content/national-integrity-commission-papers>
- ^{xi} <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/malcolm-turnbull-s-downfall-derailed-cabinet-plan-for-new-national-anti-corruption-watchdog-20181126-p50ihl.html>
- ^{xii} <https://www.tai.org.au/content/national-integrity-committee-calls-bipartisan-support-integrity-plan>
- ^{xiii} <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/malcolm-turnbull-s-downfall-derailed-cabinet-plan-for-new-national-anti-corruption-watchdog-20181126-p50ihl.html>
- ^{xiv} <https://www.tai.org.au/content/34-former-judges-call-pm-national-integrity-commission-now>
- ^{xv} <https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22chamber%2Fvotes%2F283d5102-9e8a-4475-9016-f1b3458dbe41%2F0008%22>
- ^{xvi} <https://www.ag.gov.au/integrity/consultations/commonwealth-integrity-commission>
- ^{xvii} <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/media-releases/commonwealth-integrity-commission-review-panel-announced-18-december-2018>
- ^{xviii} <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/jan/23/federal-anti-corruption-body-must-have-power-to-make-arrests-and-conduct-searches-judges-say>
- ^{xix} <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/media-releases/commonwealth-integrity-commission-review-panel-announced-18-december-2018>
- ^{xx} <https://www.governmentnews.com.au/budget-provides-100m-to-root-out-public-sector-corruption/>
- ^{xxi} <https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/federal-icac-won-t-be-short-of-business-20190501-p51j7w>
- ^{xxii} <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/media-releases/continuing-reforms-priority-attorney-general-26-may-2019>
- ^{xxiii} <https://www.theage.com.au/politics/federal/they-re-morally-corrupt-crossbenchers-slam-politics-and-take-on-crown-20190731-p52ch7.html>
- ^{xxiv} https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Hansard/Hansard_Display?bid=chamber/hansardr/e38fd3ba-f6d3-4827-b9f2-77e87af034f3/&sid=0005
<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/federal-icac-won-t-be-short-of-business-20190501-p51j7w>
- ^{xxv} <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/sep/09/senate-passes-greens-bill-to-create-federal-icac>
- ^{xxvi} <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6378772/integrity-watchdog-bill-ready-this-year/?src=ilaw&cs=14231>
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- ^{xxvii} <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/transcripts/abc-news-24-patricia-karvelas-20-nov-2019>
<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/nov/21/lnp-mp-may-cross-floor-over-federal-integrity-commission-legislation>
- ^{xxviii} <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2020/jan/17/christian-porter-admits-coalition-missed-own-deadline-on-integrity-commission-legislation>
- ^{xxix} <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2020/may/22/federal-integrity-commission-delayed-again-amid-warnings-of-coronavirus-response-corruption-risk>
<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6661675/attorney-general-contradicted-by-own-dept-over-integrity-claim/>

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- ^{xxx} <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2020/may/22/federal-integrity-commission-delayed-again-amid-warnings-of-coronavirus-response-corruption-risk>
- ^{xxxi} <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/media/transcripts/doorstop-parliament-house-mural-hall-16-june-2020>
- <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/push-for-national-integrity-commission-to-restart-after-somyurek-fall-20200616-p5534m.html>
- ^{xxxii} <https://www.governmentnews.com.au/anti-corruption-body-calls-for-integrity-commission/>
- ^{xxxiii} <https://www.helenhaines.org/media/helen-haines-moves-to-establish-australian-federal-integrity-commission>
- ^{xxxiv} <https://www.tai.org.au/content/crossbenchers-judges-majority-australians-urge-establishment-federal-integrity-commission>
- ^{xxxv} https://nb.tai.org.au/2020_budget_wrap#anao
- ^{xxxvi} <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6965739/still-no-timing-for-federal-integrity-body/?cs=14231>
- <https://www.skynews.com.au/details/6200066538001>
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- ^{xxxvii} <https://twitter.com/AmyRemeikis/status/1316475688900198400/photo/1>