

Polling brief - Western Australia

August 2018

The Australia Institute commissioned ReachTEL to conduct a survey of 1,093 residents across Western Australian households during the night of 13th August 2018.

Key results

Voting intentions

- 2PP Liberal 55%, Labor 45%
- 28.6% of West Australians said they would consider voting for One Nation in the Senate, though One Nation had a primary vote of 7.5% in the House of Reps and 7.1% in the Senate.

Company tax

- 70.4% of West Australians think the rate of company tax for large corporations (with a turnover of between \$50 million and \$500 million) should be increased or kept the same, while less than one quarter (22.8%) want it decreased
- More than twice as many West Australians oppose the banks receiving a company tax cut (66.5%) as support them receiving one (24.2%, 9.3% Don't Know)
- When asked what government should prioritise generally, company tax cuts came dead last for West Australians. Only 4.1% would prioritise company tax cuts, behind spending on infrastructure and government services like health and education (44.5%), decreasing the deficit and repaying debt (28.2%) and personal income tax cuts (15.1%)
- Almost half of voters (46.1%) in Western Australia said they would be less likely to vote for One Nation at the next election if One Nation voted to pass the government's company tax legislation for large companies like banks and supermarkets etc., while 18.7% said they would be more likely (35.2% said it did not matter).

Method

ReachTEL conducted the survey using an automated telephone based survey system among 1,093 voters. Telephone numbers and the person within the household were selected at random. The results have been weighted by gender and age to reflect the population according to ABS figures. Please note that due to rounding, not all tables necessarily total 100% and subtotals may also vary. Copyright ReachTEL Pty Ltd.

Detailed results

ReachTEL conducted a survey of 1,093 residents across Western Australian households during the night of 13th August 2018.

Question 1:

If an election for the Lower house or House of Representatives were to be held today, which of the following would receive your first preference vote?

	Total	Female	Male	18 – 34	35 – 50	51 - 65	65+
<i>Liberal</i>	36.9%	41.0%	32.6%	23.4%	34.3%	37.5%	47.5%
<i>Nationals</i>	5.9%	5.7%	6.2%	10.0%	4.3%	5.6%	4.7%
<i>Labor</i>	30.5%	27.1%	34.1%	26.4%	29.5%	32.8%	31.3%
<i>The Greens</i>	7.8%	7.4%	8.1%	13.4%	9.4%	6.8%	4.1%
<i>One Nation</i>	7.5%	5.5%	9.6%	10.0%	9.1%	6.8%	5.4%
<i>Other / Independent</i>	5.9%	6.9%	4.9%	13.4%	5.1%	5.0%	2.8%
<i>Undecided</i>	5.5%	6.4%	4.5%	3.5%	8.3%	5.6%	4.1%

Two party preferred

	Total
<i>Liberal</i>	55%
<i>Labor</i>	45%

Note: Undecided voters allocated by Q1a and preferences distributed as per Q1b

Question 1a:

Being Undecided to which of the following do you have even a slight leaning?

	Total
Liberal	25.0%
Nationals	1.7%
Labor	33.3%
The Greens	3.3%
One Nation	10.0%
Other / Independent	26.7%

Only those respondents who answered 'Undecided' to Question 1 were asked Question 1a

Question 1b:

Which of the following parties would you preference higher?

	Total
Liberal	50.0%
Labor	50.0%

Note: Respondents who answered 'Liberal' or 'Labor' in Question 1a were not asked Question 1b.

Question 2:

If an election for the upper house or senate were to be held today, which of the following would receive your first preference vote?

	Total	Female	Male	18 – 34	35 – 50	51 - 65	65+
Liberal	36.8%	41.3%	32.1%	26.5%	34.0%	36.0%	46.4%
Nationals	7.1%	7.4%	6.8%	13.5%	5.9%	6.2%	5.0%
Labor	29.3%	28.2%	30.6%	20.0%	30.9%	31.4%	32.2%
The Greens	10.1%	8.7%	11.5%	20.0%	9.0%	9.9%	4.7%
One Nation	7.1%	5.7%	8.7%	10.0%	7.0%	6.5%	5.7%
Other / Independent	6.7%	6.2%	7.2%	10.0%	8.2%	7.1%	3.2%
Undecided	2.8%	2.5%	3.2%	0.0%	5.1%	2.8%	2.8%

Question 2a:

Being Undecided to which of the following do you have even a slight leaning?

	Total
Liberal	33.3%
Nationals	6.7%
Labor	26.7%
The Greens	6.7%
One Nation	16.7%
Other / Independent	10.0%

Only those respondents who answered 'Undecided' to Question 2 were asked Question 2a

Question 3:

Regardless of whom you said you would vote for in the House or the Senate, would you ever consider voting for One Nation in the Senate?

	Total	Female	Male	18-34	35-50	51-65	65+
Yes	28.6%	25.9%	31.5%	30.0%	31.8%	29.5%	24.4%
No	62.7%	66.1%	59.1%	60.0%	58.4%	63.7%	67.1%
Unsure / Don't know	8.7%	8.0%	9.4%	10.0%	9.8%	6.8%	8.5%

Question 4:

Parliament recently cut the company tax for small and medium businesses (those with revenue up to \$50 million a year). Some politicians have proposed to also cut the company tax rate for corporations with a turnover of between \$50m and \$500 million a year.

Do you think the rate of company tax for large corporations with a turnover of between \$50 million and \$500 million should be reduced as proposed by some parliamentarians; increased; or kept the same?

	Total	Female	Male	18-34	35-50	51-65	65+
Increased	28.0%	23.8%	32.5%	30.0%	33.5%	28.6%	22.0%
Kept the same	42.4%	40.5%	44.4%	46.5%	38.2%	41.3%	43.7%
Decreased	22.8%	25.9%	19.5%	20.0%	23.2%	24.2%	23.0%
Don't know / Unsure	6.8%	9.8%	3.6%	3.5%	5.1%	5.9%	11.3%

Question 5:

By 2026-27 when the company tax cuts are due to be fully implemented, the big four banks stand to gain \$3.5 billion per annum.

Would you support or oppose the banks receiving a company tax cut?

	Total	Female	Male	18-34	35-50	51-65	65+
Strongly Support	12.3%	13.3%	11.2%	23.4%	9.0%	9.9%	10.4%
Support	11.9%	10.5%	13.4%	13.4%	9.0%	9.9%	15.5%
Oppose	29.7%	28.8%	30.7%	10.0%	22.4%	36.2%	41.3%
Strongly Oppose	36.8%	33.6%	40.3%	39.8%	47.1%	38.4%	24.9%
Don't know / Unsure	9.3%	13.9%	4.4%	13.4%	12.5%	5.6%	7.9%

Question 6:

Thinking generally about government finances would you prefer the government prioritised...?

	Total	Female	Male	18-34	35-50	51-65	65+
Personal income tax cuts	15.1%	16.3%	13.8%	13.5%	18.9%	16.2%	12.3%
Decrease the deficit and repay debt	28.2%	28.7%	27.5%	30.0%	25.6%	27.7%	29.2%
Spending on infrastructure and government services like health and education	44.5%	42.2%	47.0%	40.0%	44.9%	46.7%	45.0%
Tax cuts for companies	4.1%	3.2%	5.1%	6.5%	3.5%	3.7%	3.5%
Don't know / not sure	8.1%	9.6%	6.6%	10.0%	7.1%	5.6%	10.1%

Question 7:

If One Nation voted to support the government's company tax legislation for large companies (e.g. banks, supermarkets etc.), would you be more or less likely to vote for One Nation at the next election?

	Total	Female	Male	18-34	35-50	51-65	65+
More Likely	18.7%	16.0%	21.6%	23.5%	20.1%	15.2%	18.0%
Less Likely	46.1%	42.7%	49.7%	40.0%	42.5%	51.9%	46.8%
Vote Unchanged	35.2%	41.3%	28.7%	36.5%	37.4%	32.9%	35.1%