

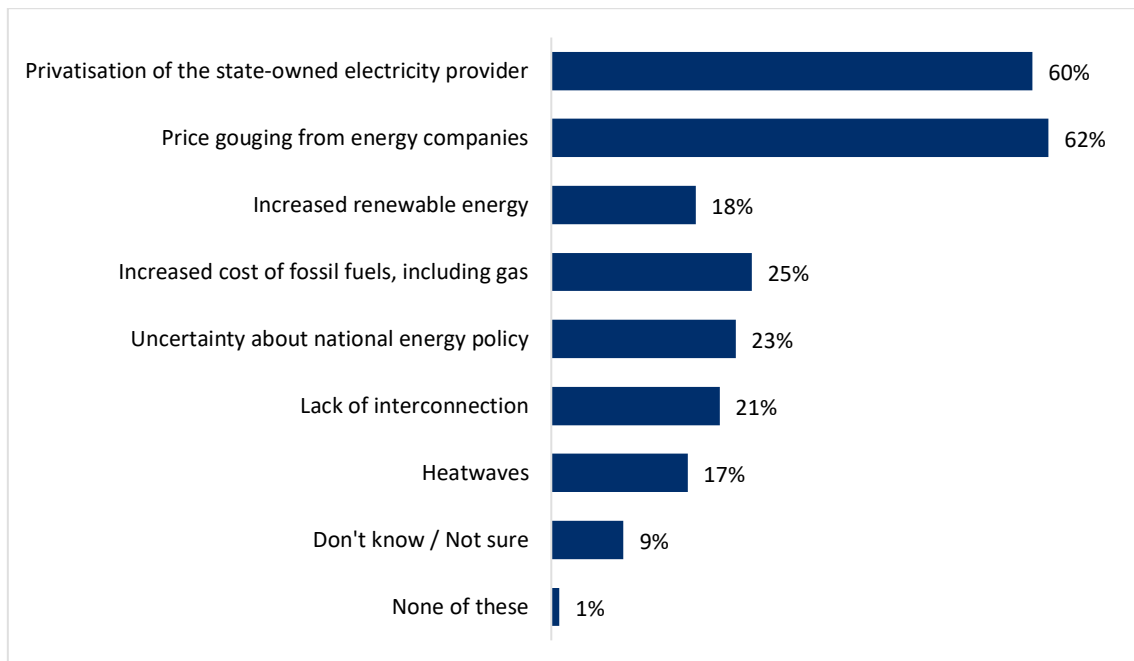
# Polling - SA Energy Prices

## Key Results

The Australia Institute surveyed 624 South Australians about what they considered to be the main source of upward pressure on power prices. (Results were weighted to match SA demographics.)

Respondents were asked to select the main factors, up to three, that they thought were putting upwards pressure on electricity prices in South Australia.

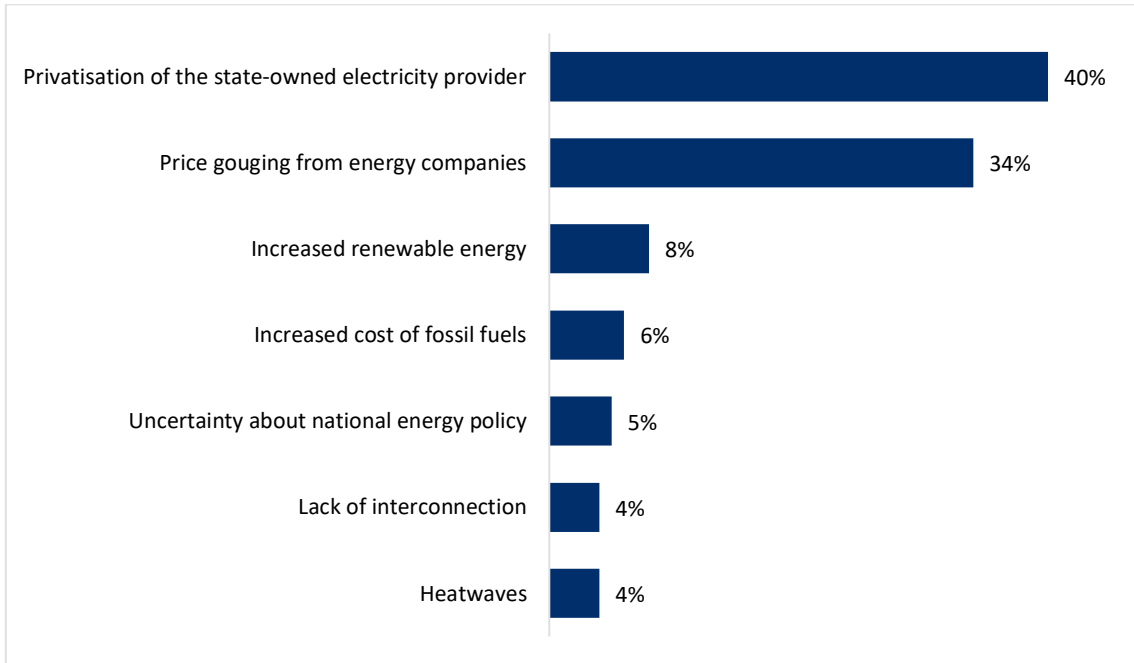
**Figure 1: Which of these do you think have been the main source of upwards pressure on electricity prices in South Australia?**



- On average, respondents selected a little over two (2.35) of the options as main sources of upward pressure on electricity prices.
- Privatisation (60%) and price gouging (62%) were the two responses most often selected by respondents.
- Only 1% of respondents said none of the options listed were the main sources of upwards pressure on electricity prices.

From those selected in the previous questions, respondents were then asked to say which they thought was the principal reason for the increasing cost of electricity. Privatisation of the state-owned energy provider was the most often selected.

**Figure 2: Which of these do you think has been the main source of upwards pressure on electricity prices in South Australia?**



- 40% of South Australians blame privatisation of the state-owned electricity provider as the single biggest reason for power price increases.
- Price gouging from energy companies was the number one concern for one out of every three South Australians (34%), making it the second most often selected.
- All other responses were selected by less than 10% of respondents, including increased renewable energy (8%).

## Method

The Australia Institute conducted a survey of 624 South Australians between 20 February 2019 and 4 March 2019, online through Dynata / Research Now. Results were weighted by gender and age to reflect demographics in South Australia.

Voting crosstabs show voting intentions for the lower house. Those who were undecided were asked which way they were leaning; these leanings are included in voting intention crosstabs, but results are also shown separately for undecideds. “LNP” includes separate responses for Liberal and National.



## Detailed results

Q: These questions are about energy in South Australia.

Which of these do you think have been the main source of upwards pressure on electricity prices in South Australia? Select up to three

(Options given in randomised order)

	Total	Male	Female	LNP	ALP	PHON	GRN	Other	CA	Undec
<b>Privatisation of the state-owned electricity provider</b>	<b>60%</b>	60%	61%	52%	63%	72%	56%	68%	72%	55%
<b>Price gouging from energy companies</b>	<b>62%</b>	66%	58%	60%	61%	62%	60%	67%	62%	49%
<b>Increased renewable energy</b>	<b>18%</b>	26%	12%	29%	10%	20%	12%	16%	22%	12%
<b>Lack of interconnection to Eastern states</b>	<b>21%</b>	22%	19%	27%	19%	10%	16%	18%	18%	13%
<b>Heatwaves</b>	<b>17%</b>	14%	19%	15%	19%	18%	14%	17%	24%	19%
<b>Increased cost of fossil fuels, including gas</b>	<b>25%</b>	25%	24%	26%	25%	22%	31%	19%	22%	22%
<b>Uncertainty about national energy policy</b>	<b>23%</b>	24%	21%	27%	20%	15%	18%	25%	27%	19%
<b>None of these</b>	<b>1%</b>	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	3%	3%	2%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	<b>9%</b>	6%	12%	7%	10%	9%	14%	9%	6%	20%

	18-24y	25-34y	35-44y	45-54y	55-64y	65y+
<b>Privatisation of the state-owned electricity provider</b>	40%	42%	61%	62%	64%	69%
<b>Price gouging from energy companies</b>	36%	54%	57%	64%	65%	69%
<b>Increased renewable energy</b>	11%	18%	10%	15%	22%	23%
<b>Lack of interconnection to Eastern states</b>	8%	15%	18%	25%	21%	24%
<b>Heatwaves</b>	24%	22%	21%	14%	12%	16%
<b>Increased cost of fossil fuels, including gas</b>	25%	28%	21%	22%	31%	22%
<b>Uncertainty about national energy policy</b>	5%	12%	28%	18%	23%	32%
<b>None of these</b>	2%	3%	0%	1%	1%	1%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	27%	16%	4%	10%	8%	5%

**Q: Which of these do you think have been the main source of upwards pressure on electricity prices in South Australia?**

*(Showing options selected above)*

	Total	Male	Female	LNP	ALP	PHON	GRN	Other	CA	Undec
<b>Privatisation of the state-owned electricity provider</b>	<b>40%</b>	38%	42%	31%	47%	45%	40%	43%	48%	42%
<b>Price gouging from energy companies</b>	<b>34%</b>	32%	35%	32%	32%	38%	27%	40%	32%	33%
<b>Increased renewable energy</b>	<b>8%</b>	12%	4%	15%	2%	5%	4%	5%	8%	3%
<b>Lack of interconnection to Eastern states</b>	<b>4%</b>	5%	4%	4%	6%	2%	7%	2%	2%	2%
<b>Heatwaves</b>	<b>4%</b>	3%	5%	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%	5%	6%
<b>Increased cost of fossil fuels, including gas</b>	<b>6%</b>	5%	6%	7%	4%	5%	15%	3%	0%	9%
<b>Uncertainty about national energy policy</b>	<b>5%</b>	6%	4%	7%	5%	2%	2%	2%	4%	5%

	18-24y	25-34y	35-44y	45-54y	55-64y	65y+
<b>Privatisation of the state-owned electricity provider</b>	39%	26%	40%	43%	46%	41%
<b>Price gouging from energy companies</b>	25%	34%	33%	35%	33%	36%
<b>Increased renewable energy</b>	4%	9%	6%	7%	8%	9%
<b>Lack of interconnection to Eastern states</b>	3%	7%	6%	8%	2%	2%
<b>Heatwaves</b>	15%	8%	6%	0%	1%	3%
<b>Increased cost of fossil fuels, including gas</b>	15%	13%	4%	1%	6%	4%
<b>Uncertainty about national energy policy</b>	0%	5%	6%	5%	4%	6%