

# Polling - SA Budget funding

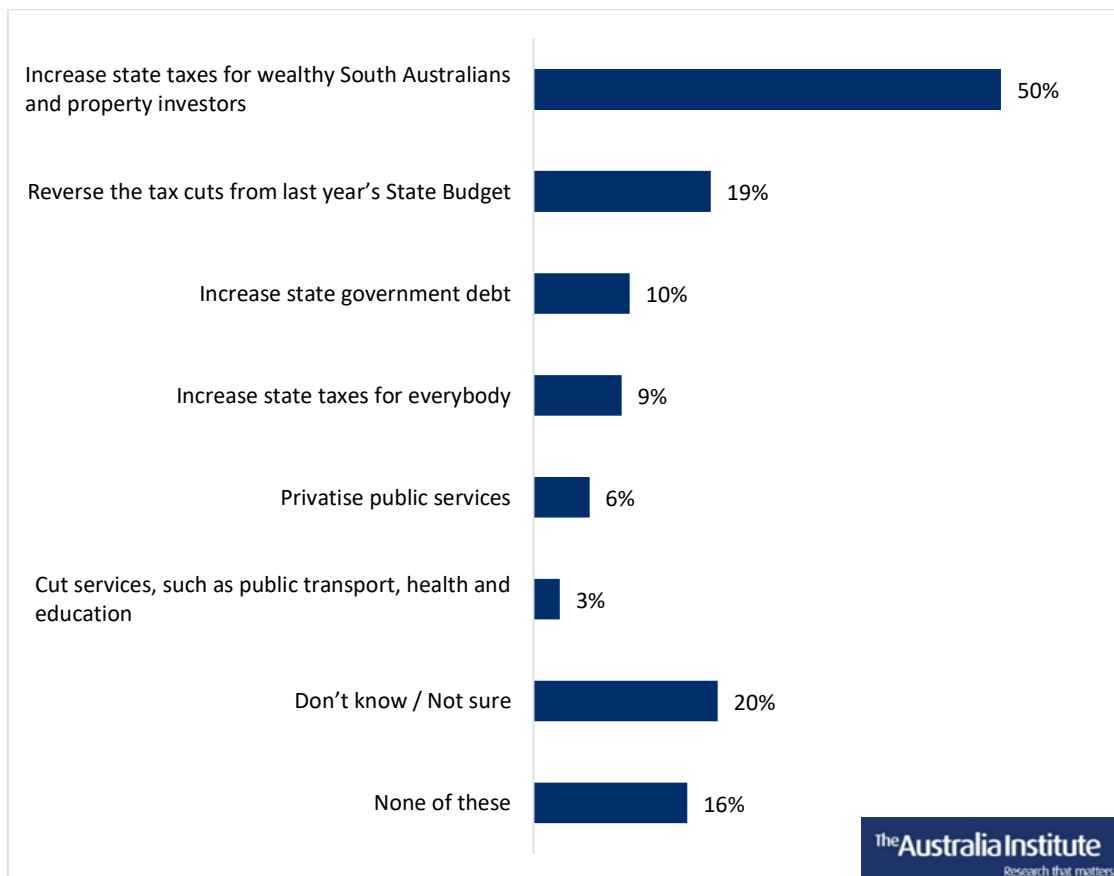
June 2019

## Key Results

The Australia Institute surveyed a state representative sample of 606 South Australians about State Government funding priorities.

Respondents were told that South Australia is going to receive \$517 million less in GST revenue from the Commonwealth than was originally predicted in the next financial year. They were then asked to pick which, if any, of the following options the State Government should use to make up that funding shortfall. Respondents were able to select more than one option.

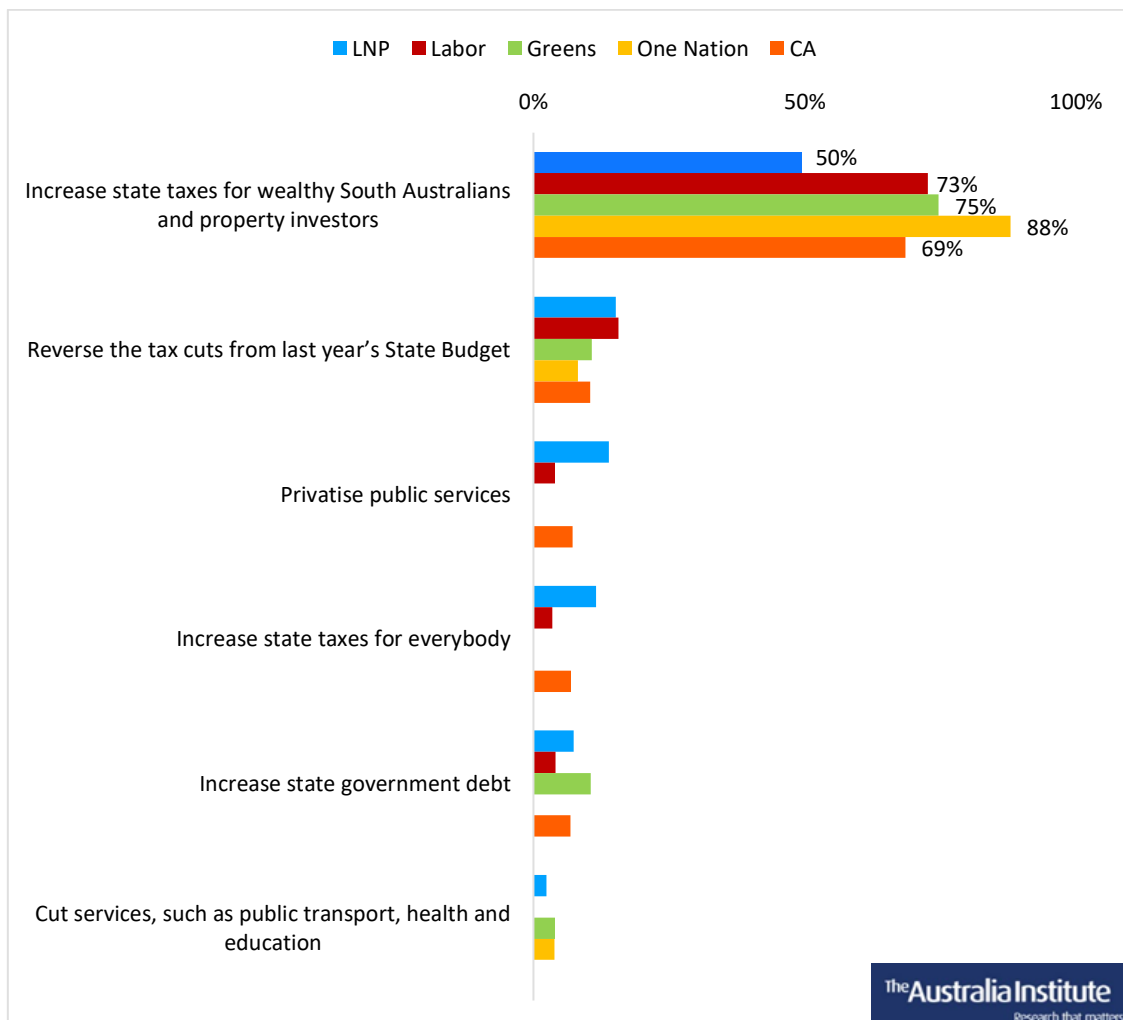
**Figure 1: How should the State Government make up the GST funding shortfall?**



- **The most popular option, chosen by one in two respondents (50%), was to make up the funding shortfall by increasing state taxes for wealthy South Australians and property investors.**
  - Three in five Labor (60%), Greens (58%) and One Nation (58%) voters, 54% of Centre Alliance voters and two in five Coalition voters (39%) wanted the shortfall made up through increasing state taxes on wealthy South Australians and property investors.
- One in five respondents (19%) chose reversing the tax cuts from last year's State Budget.
- More respondents chose none of these (16%) than increasing State Government debt (10%) and increasing state taxes for everybody (9%).
- The least popular options were privatising public services (6%) and cutting services such as public transport, health and education (3%).

Respondents were also asked which of the options was their top priority. Figure 2 shows responses broken down by party preference.

**Figure 2: Which of the following options is your top priority?**



- **Increasing state taxes for wealthy South Australians and property investors was the top priority for two in three (66%) of respondents to make up the funding shortfall.**
  - A majority of voters from most parties, including nine in ten One Nation voters (88%) and three in four Greens (75%) and Labor voters (73%) chose the increase as their top priority, as did half of Coalition voters (50%).
  - A majority of every age demographic also chose the increase as their top priority.
- Reversing the tax cuts from last year's State Budget (15%) was chosen by one in seven respondents as their top priority for making up the funding shortfall.
- Less than one in ten respondents' top priority was privatising public services (6%), increasing state taxes for everybody (6%) and increasing state government debt (5%).
- The least popular option was cutting services, such as public transport, health and education with only 1% choosing it as their top priority.

## Method

The Australia Institute conducted a survey of 606 South Australians between 11 April 2019 and 18 April 2019, online through Dynata (formerly Research Now), post-weighted to reflect social demographics by age and gender 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

South Australia is going to receive \$517 million less in GST revenue from the Commonwealth than was originally predicted in the next financial year. How should the State Government make up that funding shortfall?

	Total	Male	Female	LNP	Labor	Greens	One Nation	CA	Other
Increase state taxes for wealthy South Australians and property investors	50%	51%	49%	39%	60%	58%	58%	54%	43%
Reverse the tax cuts from last year's State Budget	19%	26%	14%	16%	23%	18%	10%	22%	19%
Increase state government debt	10%	16%	6%	9%	13%	17%	5%	10%	7%
Increase state taxes for everybody	9%	13%	7%	11%	10%	14%	0%	12%	5%
Privatise public services	6%	8%	4%	11%	6%	3%	3%	5%	1%
Cut services, such as public transport, health and education	3%	4%	2%	4%	1%	5%	5%	2%	3%
Don't know / Not sure	20%	14%	25%	16%	22%	20%	15%	9%	28%
None of these	16%	16%	16%	22%	10%	8%	22%	23%	19%
<i>Average Selected</i>	<b>1.34</b>	1.48	1.23	1.28	1.44	1.43	1.18	1.37	1.25

	Total	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years or older
Increase state taxes for wealthy South Australians and property investors	50%	29%	38%	54%	56%	48%	54%
Reverse the tax cuts from last year's State Budget	19%	26%	11%	19%	15%	16%	24%
Increase state government debt	10%	10%	11%	8%	6%	12%	12%
Increase state taxes for everybody	9%	16%	12%	6%	4%	7%	14%
Privatise public services	6%	7%	9%	2%	6%	5%	7%
Cut services, such as public transport, health and education	3%	3%	5%	3%	1%	3%	2%
Don't know / Not sure	20%	32%	36%	20%	12%	21%	16%
None of these	16%	10%	14%	13%	22%	19%	16%
<i>Average Selected</i>	<b>1.34</b>	1.33	1.36	1.26	1.22	1.32	1.45

Which of the following is your top priority?

	Total	Male	Female	LNP	Labor	Greens	One Nation	CA	Other
Increase state taxes for wealthy South Australians and property investors	66%	57%	75%	50%	73%	75%	88%	69%	70%
Reverse the tax cuts from last year's State Budget	15%	18%	12%	15%	16%	11%	8%	10%	21%
Privatise public services	6%	7%	6%	14%	4%	0%	0%	7%	2%
Increase state taxes for everybody	6%	7%	5%	12%	4%	0%	0%	7%	4%
Increase state government debt	5%	8%	3%	7%	4%	11%	0%	7%	2%
Cut services, such as public transport, health and education	1%	3%	0%	2%	0%	4%	4%	0%	2%

	Total	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years or older
Increase state taxes for wealthy South Australians and property investors	66%	44%	69%	74%	68%	68%	64%
Reverse the tax cuts from last year's State Budget	15%	28%	3%	14%	18%	13%	16%
Privatise public services	6%	11%	7%	2%	6%	5%	8%
Increase state taxes for everybody	6%	11%	7%	5%	3%	5%	6%
Increase state government debt	5%	6%	11%	3%	5%	6%	4%
Cut services, such as public transport, health and education	1%	0%	4%	2%	0%	2%	1%