

# Polling - Green hydrogen in South Australia

*March 2020*

## Key results

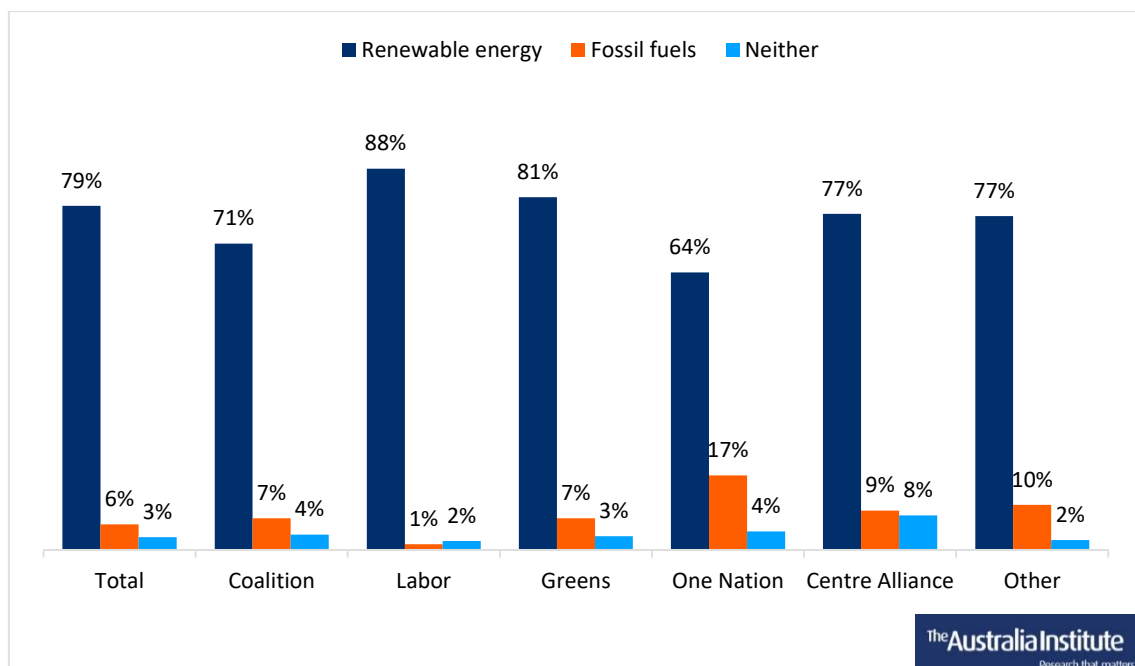
The Australia Institute surveyed a sample of 521 South Australians about the hydrogen industry. South Australians overwhelmingly prefer that hydrogen be generated from renewable energy, not fossil fuels.

Respondents were first given a short explanation of hydrogen fuel and how it can be produced. They were told that one day South Australia might be able to export energy to other countries in the form of hydrogen fuel.

Respondents were then asked whether they would prefer that South Australian hydrogen fuel is generated from renewable sources or fossil fuel sources.

- Four in five South Australians (79%) would prefer that South Australian hydrogen fuel is generated from renewable sources.
  - Only 6% would prefer that it is generated from fossil fuel sources.

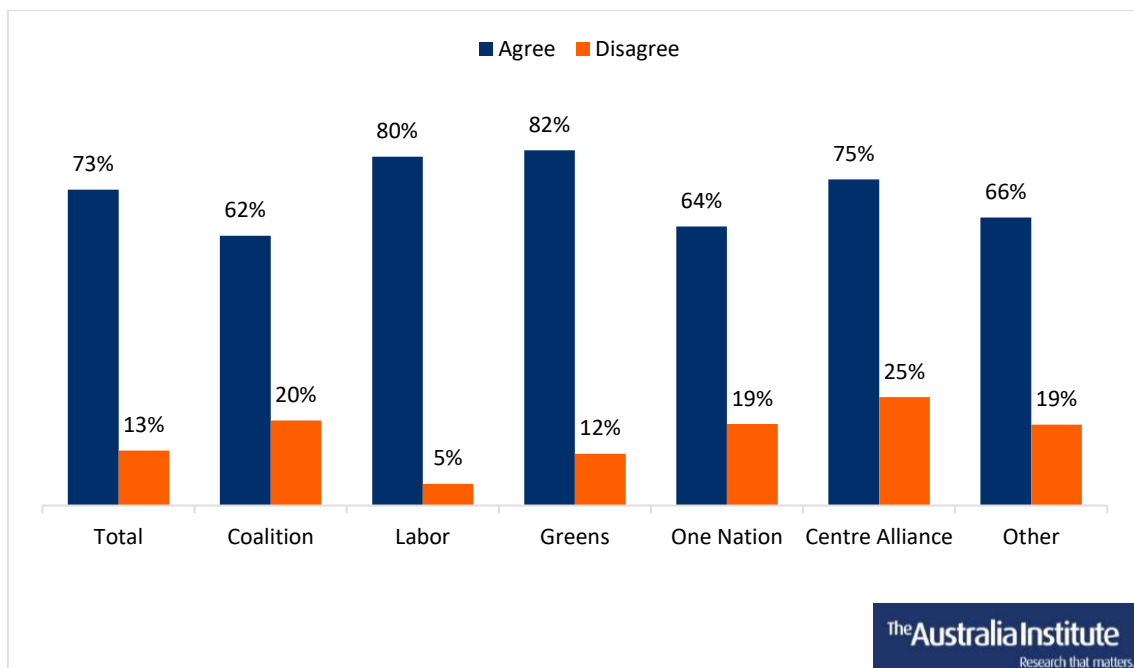
**Figure 1: Preference for hydrogen from renewable energy or fossil fuels**



Respondents were then asked if they agreed or disagreed that South Australia should only pursue a hydrogen fuel industry if it uses energy from renewable sources.

- Three in four South Australians (73%) agree that South Australia should only pursue a hydrogen fuel industry if it uses renewable energy, including 40% that strongly agree.
  - Only 13% disagree, including 3% that strongly disagree.
- A majority of all voting intentions agree that South Australia should only pursue a hydrogen fuel industry if it uses renewable energy.

**Figure 2: South Australia should only pursue a hydrogen fuel industry if it uses renewable energy**



## Method

The Australia Institute conducted a survey of 521 South Australians between 3 and 6 March 2020, online through Dynata, 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. “Other” includes Jacqui Lambie Network and Independent/Other.

## Detailed results

The following questions are about hydrogen fuel. Hydrogen is used as a fuel in some passenger cars and other internal-combustion engines, and in fuel cells. It produces no emissions when burned, but its creation can produce emissions if it is produced from fossil fuels. Alternatively, hydrogen fuel can be produced from renewable energy.

One day, South Australia might be able to export energy to other countries in the form of hydrogen fuel.

Would you prefer that South Australian hydrogen fuel is generated from renewable sources, such as wind and solar farms, or from fossil fuel sources such as coal and gas?

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
<b>Renewable energy</b>	79%	79%	79%
<b>Fossil fuels</b>	6%	9%	3%
<b>Neither</b>	3%	2%	3%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	12%	10%	14%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>LNP</i>	<i>ALP</i>	<i>GRN</i>	<i>PHON</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>Other</i>
<b>Renewable energy</b>	79%	71%	88%	81%	64%	77%	77%
<b>Fossil fuels</b>	6%	7%	1%	7%	17%	9%	10%
<b>Neither</b>	3%	4%	2%	3%	4%	8%	2%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	12%	19%	9%	8%	15%	6%	10%

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

“South Australia should only pursue a hydrogen fuel industry in the future if it uses energy from renewable sources, such as wind and solar farms.”

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
<b>Strongly agree</b>	40%	36%	43%
<b>Agree</b>	33%	32%	34%
<b>Disagree</b>	10%	13%	7%
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	3%	5%	0%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	15%	13%	16%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>LNP</i>	<i>ALP</i>	<i>GRN</i>	<i>PHON</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>Other</i>
<b>Strongly agree</b>	40%	20%	44%	66%	43%	56%	39%
<b>Agree</b>	33%	42%	36%	16%	21%	19%	27%
<b>Disagree</b>	10%	16%	5%	12%	6%	25%	10%
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	3%	4%	0%	0%	13%	0%	8%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	15%	18%	15%	6%	17%	0%	15%