

Polling - Trust and Federal ICAC

May 2017

Key Results

The Australia Institute surveyed 1420 Australians about trust in Parliamentarians and a National Independent Commission Against Corruption.

- **63% of people have a low level of trust in federal parliament, and only 10% have a high level of trust**
 - Trust is low both among LNP voters (51%) and Labor voters (61%)
 - Trust is lowest among non-major party voters (PHON 83%, Greens 73%, Other 67%, Undec 59%)
- **58% of people do not think current arrangements to investigate and expose misconduct and corruption in federal politics are effective**
- **80% of people support establishing a federal ICAC**
 - Support is highest among LNP voters (84%)
- **63% of people think a federal ICAC would increase their trust in federal parliament**
 - Both LNP voters (68%) and Labor voters (61%) think that a federal ICAC would increase trust
- **78% of people support having a federal ICAC with public hearings**
 - Support is high both among LNP voters (75%) and Labor voters (76%)
- **More people think NSW ICAC has done a good job of investigating and exposing corruption than a poor job (37% good job, 22% poor job, with 41% don't know)**

Method

From 17 March to 24 March 2017, The Australia Institute conducted a national poll of 1420 people through Research Now using representative samples by gender, age and state or territory. Results are presented in detail below with crosstabs by gender, larger states and voting intention in the House of Representatives.

Undecided voters were asked which way they were 'leaning', and these leanings are included in the party voting intention crosstabs. Results for undecided voters are also shown separately as 'Undec'. 'LNP' combines separate responses for Liberals and Nationals. 'Other' combines responses for Independent / Other and for the Nick Xenophon Team.

Detailed Results

How would you describe current levels of trust in the federal Parliament amongst people like you?

	Total	Male	Female	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65 yrs
Total high	10%	12%	8%	17%	14%	8%	7%	4%	9%
Total low	63%	66%	59%	42%	52%	59%	71%	73%	73%
Very high	2%	3%	1%	5%	3%	3%	2%	0%	1%
High	7%	8%	6%	12%	10%	6%	5%	4%	8%
Neutral	21%	20%	23%	29%	25%	25%	17%	17%	17%
Low	30%	30%	30%	23%	28%	25%	29%	38%	36%
Very low	32%	36%	29%	19%	24%	34%	42%	35%	37%
Don't know / not sure	7%	3%	10%	12%	10%	8%	5%	5%	1%

	LNP	Labor	Greens	PHON	Other	Undec
Total high	16%	9%	4%	4%	4%	2%
Total low	51%	61%	73%	83%	67%	59%
Very high	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%
High	13%	7%	3%	3%	2%	1%
Neutral	28%	23%	18%	9%	16%	23%
Low	30%	29%	34%	32%	29%	27%
Very low	21%	32%	39%	52%	38%	32%
Don't know / not sure	5%	6%	6%	4%	13%	17%

Thinking about current arrangements to investigate and expose misconduct and corruption in federal politics, how effective do you think these are?

	Total	Male	Female	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65 yrs
Total effective	30%	30%	29%	36%	35%	34%	21%	24%	30%
Total not effective	58%	62%	54%	42%	47%	53%	67%	70%	66%
Very effective	4%	4%	3%	6%	7%	4%	3%	1%	2%
Somewhat effective	26%	27%	26%	30%	28%	30%	18%	23%	29%
Not effective	35%	34%	37%	37%	31%	32%	39%	41%	35%
Very ineffective	23%	29%	17%	5%	16%	21%	28%	29%	32%
Don't Know / Not Sure	12%	7%	17%	22%	18%	14%	12%	6%	3%

	LNP	Labor	Greens	PHON	Other	Undec
Total effective	42%	28%	19%	23%	21%	22%
Total not effective	49%	58%	69%	69%	60%	50%
Very effective	5%	4%	2%	3%	2%	3%
Somewhat effective	36%	25%	17%	20%	18%	19%
Not effective	33%	37%	45%	34%	32%	33%
Very ineffective	16%	22%	24%	35%	28%	17%
Don't Know / Not Sure	9%	13%	12%	8%	20%	28%

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?

	Total	Male	Female	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65 yrs
Total support	80%	84%	77%	66%	72%	79%	84%	89%	89%
Total oppose	7%	9%	6%	11%	11%	10%	4%	4%	5%
Strongly support	40%	46%	35%	30%	31%	36%	45%	47%	51%
Support	40%	37%	42%	36%	41%	43%	39%	42%	38%
Oppose	6%	7%	4%	8%	10%	7%	3%	3%	4%
Strongly oppose	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	1%	1%	2%
Don't know / not sure	12%	7%	17%	23%	17%	11%	12%	7%	6%

	LNP	Labor	Greens	PHON	Other	Undec
Total support	84%	76%	83%	82%	82%	71%
Total oppose	8%	9%	4%	7%	2%	4%
Strongly support	35%	40%	44%	47%	46%	29%
Support	48%	36%	39%	35%	36%	42%
Oppose	7%	7%	4%	5%	1%	2%
Strongly oppose	1%	3%	0%	2%	1%	1%
Don't know / not sure	8%	14%	13%	11%	16%	25%

If federal Parliament established a National Independent Commission Against Corruption, how do you think this would impact levels of trust in federal Parliament amongst people like you?

	Total	Male	Female	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65 yrs
Total increase	63%	67%	59%	52%	61%	58%	63%	65%	74%
Total decrease	5%	4%	6%	10%	7%	7%	3%	4%	2%
Increase greatly	10%	12%	8%	11%	10%	10%	10%	9%	10%
Increase somewhat	53%	54%	51%	42%	52%	47%	53%	56%	64%
No change	19%	21%	18%	15%	15%	23%	22%	21%	19%
Decrease somewhat	4%	3%	4%	8%	5%	6%	1%	2%	1%
Decrease greatly	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Don't know / not sure	13%	9%	17%	22%	17%	13%	13%	9%	6%

	LNP	Labor	Greens	PHON	Other	Undec
Total increase	68%	61%	62%	60%	59%	45%
Total decrease	4%	5%	8%	7%	2%	6%
Increase greatly	10%	11%	7%	9%	9%	5%
Increase somewhat	58%	49%	55%	52%	49%	40%
No change	19%	20%	16%	22%	18%	20%
Decrease somewhat	3%	4%	4%	5%	2%	3%
Decrease greatly	1%	1%	5%	3%	0%	3%
Don't know / not sure	9%	14%	13%	10%	21%	29%

If there was a National Independent Commission Against Corruption, should its hearings generally be

	Total	Male	Female	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65 yrs
Open to the public	78%	82%	74%	62%	69%	75%	86%	83%	88%
Held in private	11%	10%	11%	19%	11%	13%	5%	9%	8%
Don't know / not sure	12%	9%	15%	19%	19%	12%	9%	8%	4%

	LNP	Labor	Greens	PHON	Other	Undec
Open to the public	75%	76%	76%	88%	81%	72%
Held in private	14%	11%	13%	4%	4%	7%
Don't know / not sure	10%	13%	11%	8%	15%	21%

Do you think New South Wales' Independent Commission Against Corruption has done a good or poor job of investigating and exposing corruption in New South Wales?

	Total	Male	Female	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs	65 yrs
Very good	6%	8%	4%	7%	6%	5%	7%	3%	8%
Good	31%	36%	26%	30%	28%	32%	27%	31%	38%
Poor	17%	18%	17%	19%	16%	15%	21%	15%	17%
Very Poor	5%	5%	4%	3%	5%	5%	6%	6%	3%
Don't know / not sure	41%	33%	49%	42%	45%	42%	39%	45%	34%

	NPN	Labor	Greens	PHON	Other	Undec
Very good	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%	3%
Good	35%	33%	24%	29%	23%	20%
Poor	18%	15%	17%	20%	20%	13%
Very Poor	3%	5%	6%	10%	4%	5%
Don't know / not sure	37%	41%	49%	37%	48%	59%

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA
Very good	9%	4%	6%	2%	3%
Good	38%	28%	31%	22%	17%
Poor	21%	14%	17%	13%	18%
Very Poor	7%	4%	5%	3%	5%
Don't know	24%	50%	40%	59%	57%