

Polling: Violence against women

March 2021

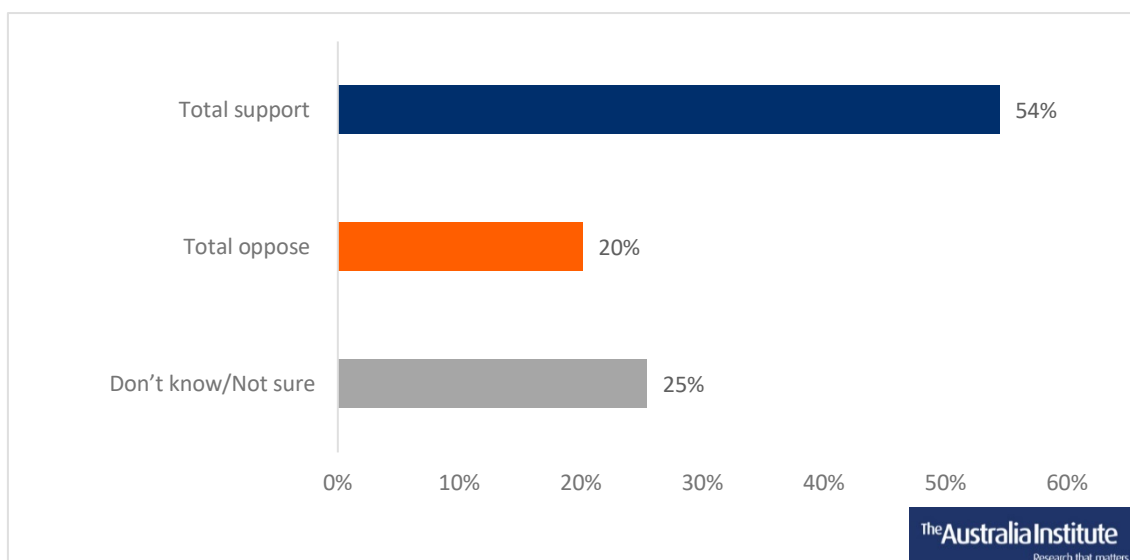
Key results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,000 Australians about the way the Federal Government is handling recent allegations of violence against women and issues that primarily affect women.

Results show that:

- More than half (54%) of Australians support an independent inquiry into whether Christian Porter is a fit and proper person to be Attorney General, 20% oppose such an inquiry (25% don't know).
 - A majority of Labor and Greens voters (both 61%) and more than half of Coalition (54%) voters support an independent inquiry.
- Two in five (39%) Australians rate the recent performance of Scott Morrison's Government in its handling of allegations of sexual violence against women as below average/extremely poor; compared to a quarter (26%) who rated its performance as above average/excellent, a quarter (26%) said it is average.
- 35% of Australians rate the performance of Scott Morrison's Government in its handling of issues that primarily impact women as below average/extremely poor, compared to 27% who rated it above average/excellent.

Figure 1. Do you support or oppose an independent inquiry into whether Christian Porter is a fit and proper person to be Attorney General?

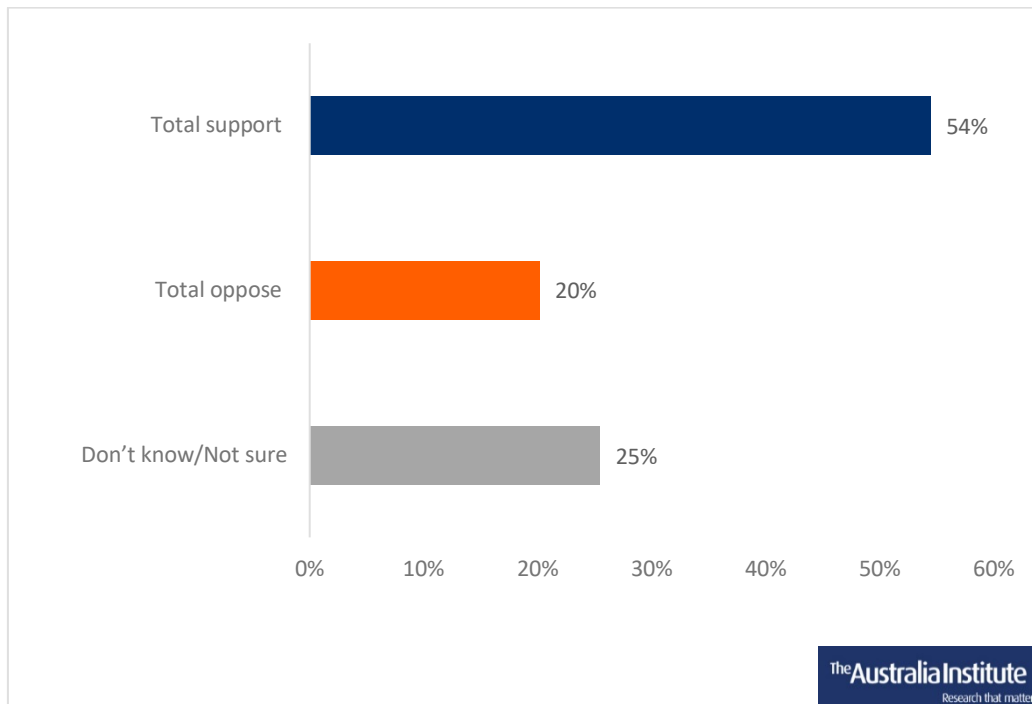


Independent Inquiry

Respondents were asked whether they supported or opposed an independent inquiry to determine if Christian Porter is a fit and proper person to be Attorney General.

More than half (54%) of Australians support an independent inquiry, one in five (20%) oppose such an inquiry, while a quarter (25%) don't know or are not sure.

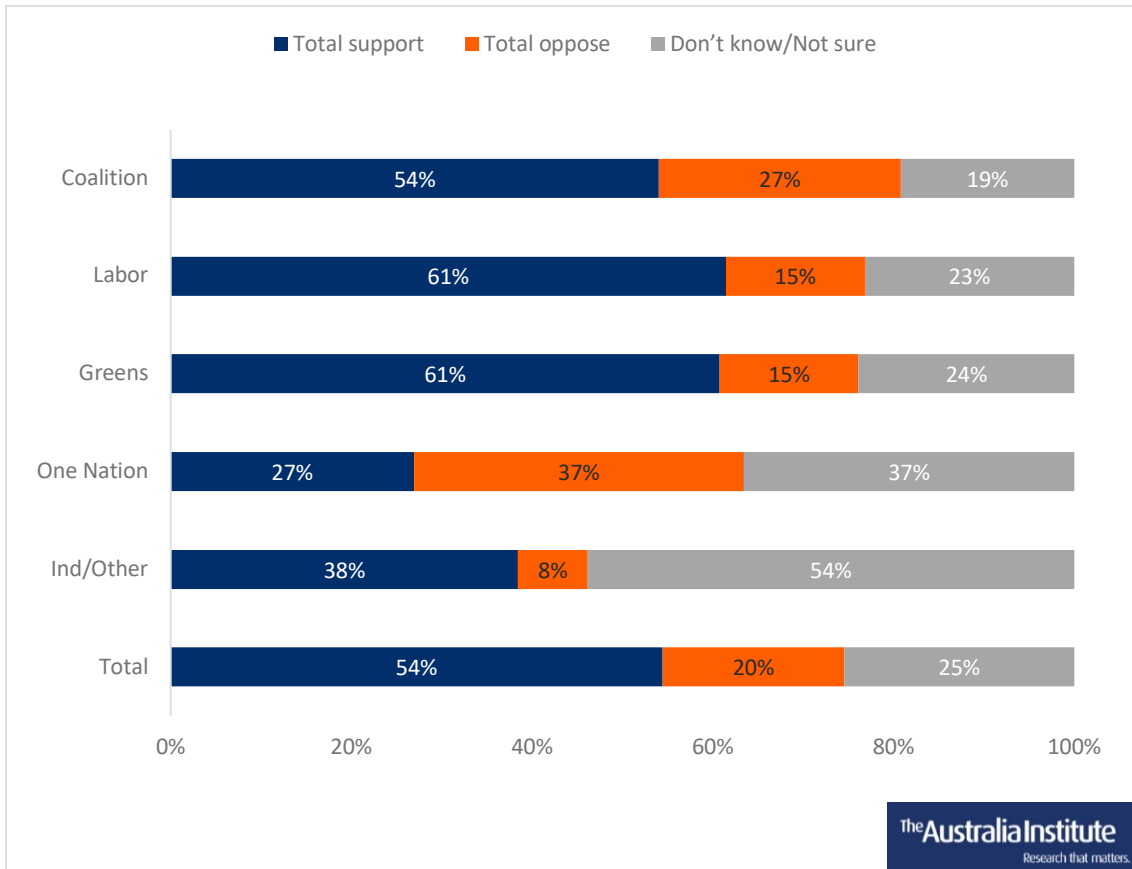
Figure 2. Do you support or oppose an independent inquiry into whether Christian Porter is a fit and proper person to be Attorney General?



A majority of Labor and Greens voters (both 61%) and more than half of Coalition voters (54%) support an independent inquiry into whether Christian Porter is a fit and proper person to be Attorney General.

One Nation voters are equally as likely to say they were opposed to such an inquiry or are not sure (37%). More than half of independent voters (54%) are unsure, though two in five support an inquiry (38%), compared to less than one in ten (8%) who are opposed.

Figure 3. Support for independent inquiry into Christian Porter’s fitness to be a Minister, by party



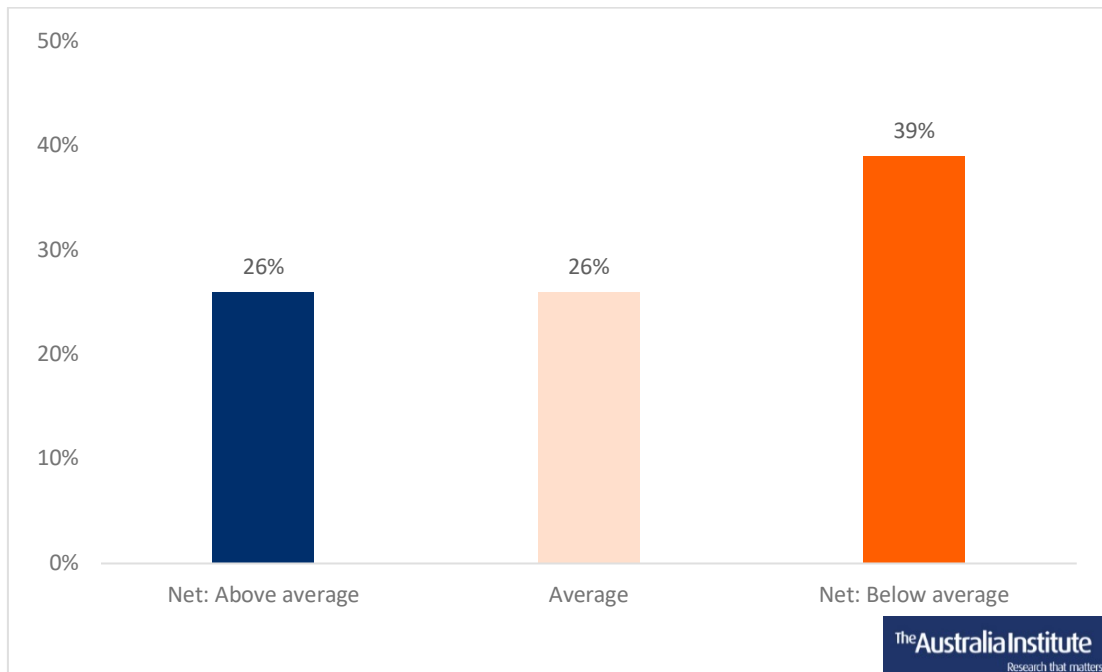
Men are more likely than women to support an independent inquiry (men 61%, women 49%).

Handling of allegations of sexual violence against women

Respondents were also asked about the recent performance of Scott Morrison's Government in its handling of allegations of sexual violence against women.

More respondents think the Morrison Government's recent performance is below average/extremely poor (39%) than above average/excellent (26%), while a quarter (26%) described it as average.

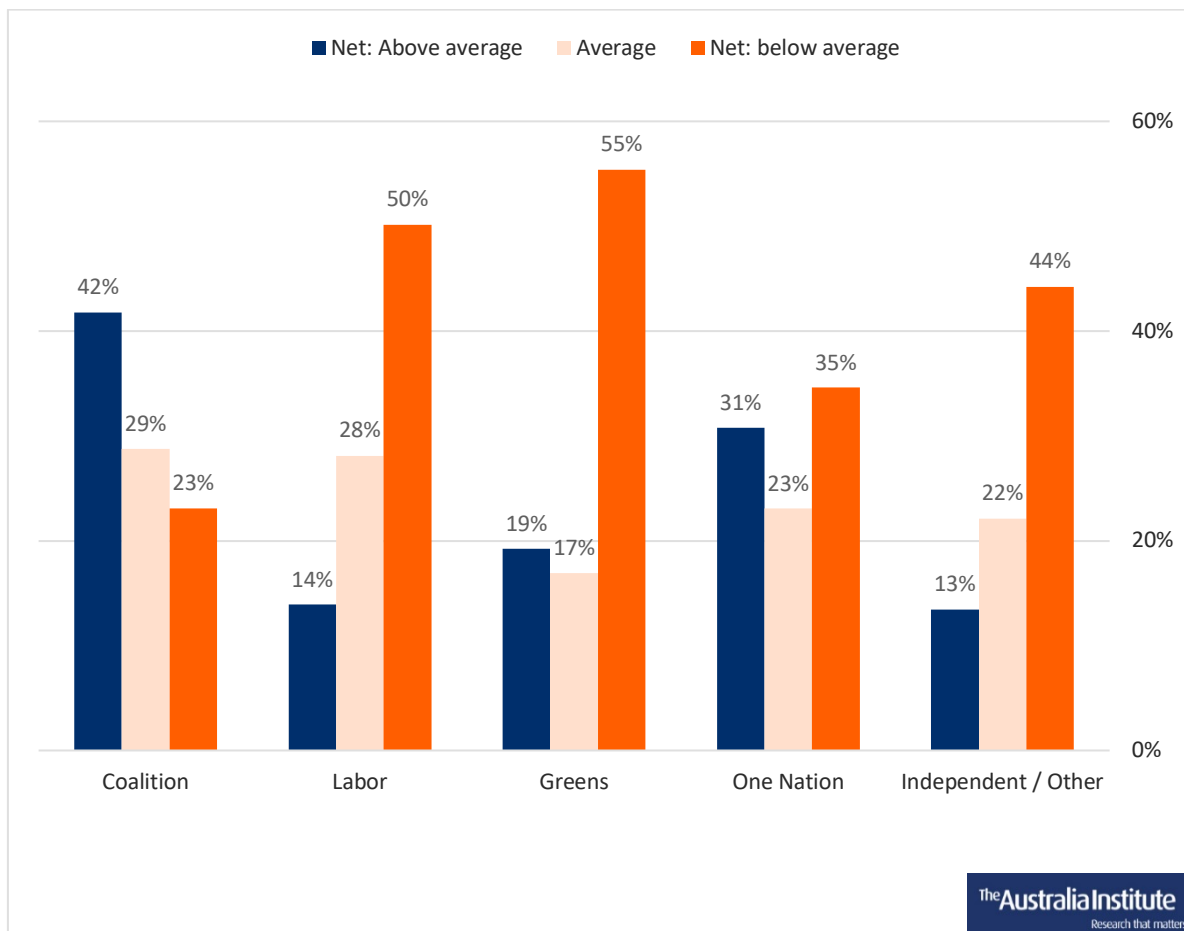
Figure 4. Rating the Morrison government's recent handling of allegations of sexual violence against women



Except for the Coalition, voters from across the political spectrum are more likely to say the Morrison government's recent handling of allegations of sexual violence against women is below average/extremely poor. Greens (55%) and Labor (50%) voters are most likely to describe the government's performance as below average or extremely poor, followed by independent voters (44%) and One Nation voters (35%).

Coalition voters are most likely to say the Morrison government's recent handling of allegations of sexual violence against women is above average/excellent (42%) and least likely to say it is below average/extremely poor (23%).

Figure 5. Rating the Morrison government's recent handling of allegations of sexual violence against women, by party

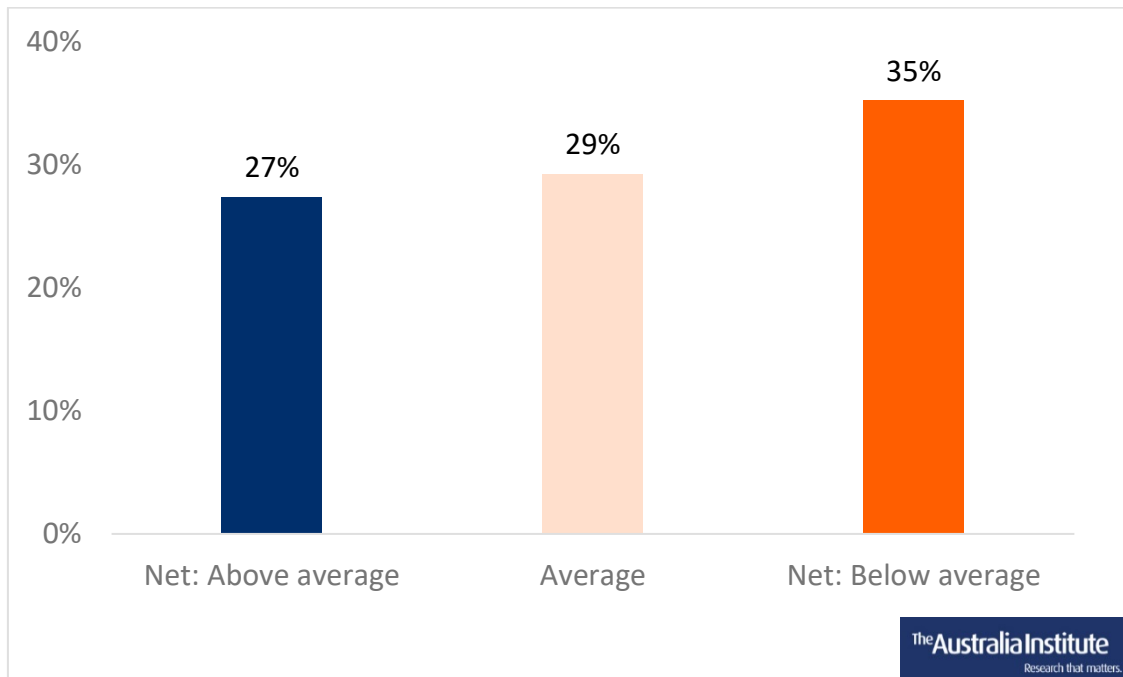


Handling of issues primarily affecting women

Respondents were asked, more generally, how they would rate the Morrison government's recent handling of issues that primarily affect women.

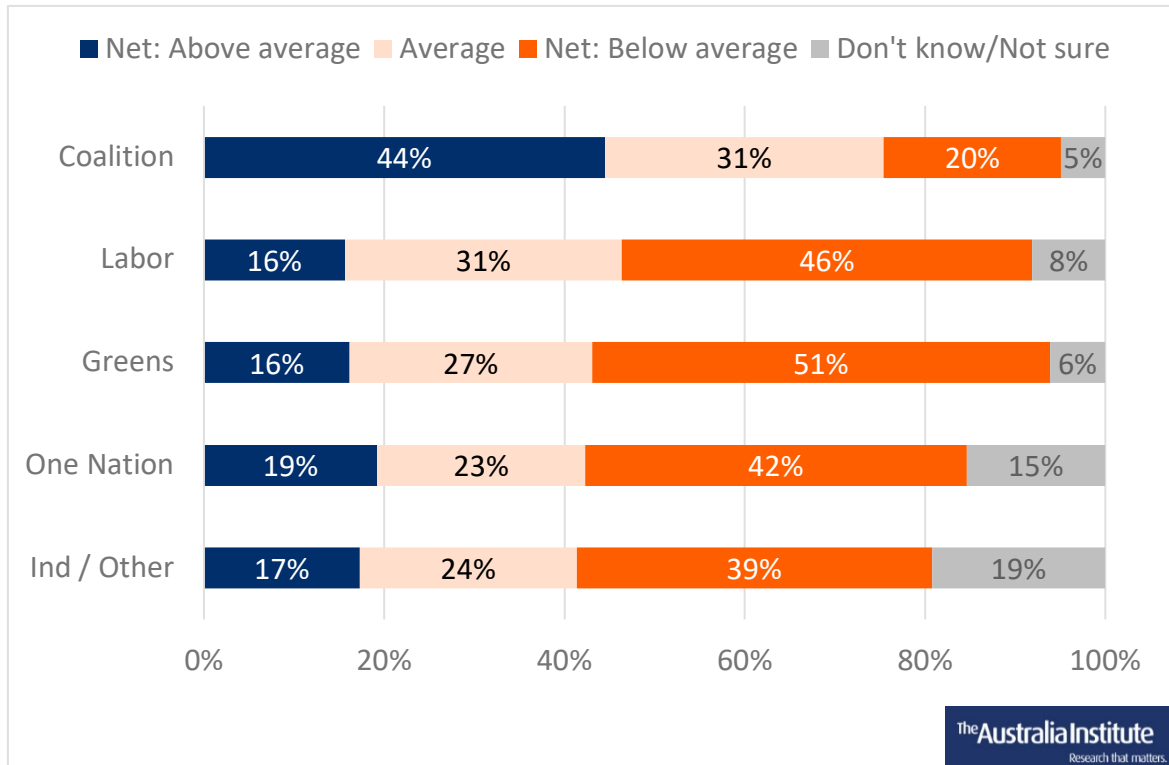
More respondents rate the government's performance on issues primarily affecting women negatively (35%) than positively (27%), with 29% describing its performance as average.

Figure 6. Rating Morrison government performance on issues primarily affecting women



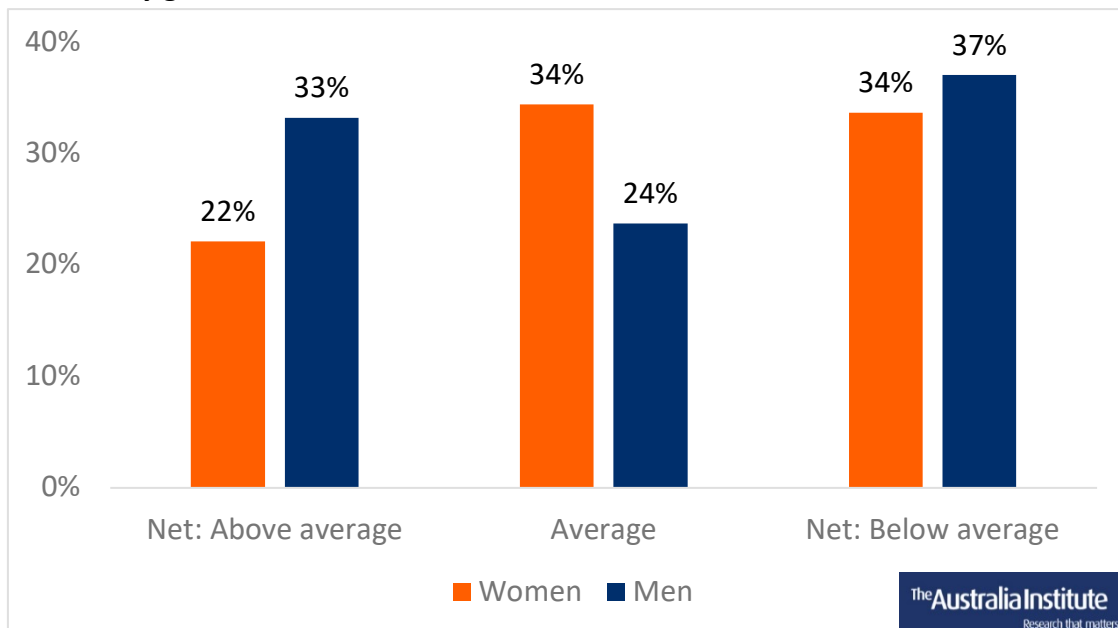
Again, there is a strong partisan divide on performance, with Coalition voters the most likely to describe the Government's performance as above average/excellent (44%), compared to just 16% of Labor and Greens voters, 17% of Independent voters and 19% of One Nation voters. More than half (51%) of Greens voters described the Government's performance as below average/ extremely poor.

Figure 7. Rating Morrison government performance on issues primarily affecting women, by party



If we look at the results by gender, men are much more likely to rate the Morrison government's performance as excellent or above average (33%) than women (22%).

Figure 8. Rating Morrison government performance on issues primarily affecting women, by gender



Method

The Australia Institute conducted a national survey of 1,000 people between 11 and 12 March 2021, online through Dynata with nationally representative samples by gender, age and state and territory.

The margin of error (95% confidence level) for the national results is 2.6%.

Results are shown only for larger states.

Voting crosstabs show voting intentions for the House of Representatives. Those who were undecided were asked which way they were leaning; these leanings are included in voting intention crosstabs. “Coalition” includes separate responses for Liberal and National. “Other” includes Centre Alliance, Jacqui Lambie Network and Independent/Other.

Detailed results

Q. Do you support or oppose an independent inquiry into whether Christian Porter is a fit and proper person to be Attorney General?

| | Total | Male | Female | NSW | VIC | QLD | WA |
|---------------------|-------|------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Strongly support | 28% | 35% | 22% | 30% | 25% | 27% | 30% |
| Support | 26% | 26% | 27% | 29% | 30% | 23% | 26% |
| Oppose | 11% | 10% | 11% | 9% | 10% | 14% | 10% |
| Strongly oppose | 10% | 11% | 8% | 10% | 8% | 11% | 7% |
| Don't know/Not sure | 25% | 17% | 33% | 22% | 26% | 25% | 26% |

| | Total | Coalition | Labor | Greens | One Nation | Independent /Other |
|---------------------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|------------|--------------------|
| Strongly support | 28% | 28% | 28% | 41% | 17% | 21% |
| Support | 26% | 26% | 34% | 20% | 10% | 17% |
| Oppose | 11% | 13% | 8% | 12% | 15% | 5% |
| Strongly oppose | 10% | 14% | 7% | 3% | 21% | 3% |
| Don't know/Not sure | 25% | 19% | 23% | 24% | 37% | 54% |

Q. How would you rate the recent performance of Scott Morrison's Government in its handling of allegations of sexual violence against women?

| | Total | Male | Female | NSW | QLD | VIC | WA |
|---------------------|-------|------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Excellent | 13% | 18% | 7% | 16% | 9% | 13% | 11% |
| Above Average | 14% | 15% | 13% | 14% | 15% | 12% | 14% |
| Average | 26% | 23% | 29% | 24% | 26% | 27% | 31% |
| Below Average | 18% | 16% | 20% | 19% | 15% | 22% | 11% |
| Extremely Poor | 21% | 22% | 20% | 20% | 24% | 18% | 23% |
| Don't know/Not sure | 9% | 7% | 10% | 6% | 10% | 7% | 9% |

| | Total | Coalition | Labor | Greens | One Nation | Independent /Other |
|---------------------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|------------|--------------------|
| Excellent | 13% | 21% | 6% | 9% | 13% | 4% |
| Above Average | 14% | 21% | 8% | 10% | 17% | 10% |
| Average | 26% | 29% | 28% | 17% | 23% | 22% |
| Below Average | 18% | 15% | 21% | 19% | 13% | 19% |
| Extremely Poor | 21% | 8% | 29% | 36% | 21% | 25% |
| Don't know/Not sure | 9% | 6% | 8% | 8% | 12% | 20% |

Q. How would you rate the performance of Scott Morrison's Government in its handling of issues that primarily impact women?

| | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>NSW</i> | <i>VIC</i> | <i>QLD</i> | <i>WA</i> |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Excellent | 14% | 19% | 10% | 18% | 14% | 12% | 9% |
| Above Average | 13% | 14% | 12% | 12% | 14% | 12% | 16% |
| Average | 29% | 24% | 34% | 28% | 31% | 28% | 35% |
| Below Average | 18% | 18% | 18% | 18% | 18% | 22% | 13% |
| Extremely Poor | 17% | 19% | 15% | 17% | 16% | 17% | 19% |
| Don't know/Not sure | 8% | 6% | 10% | 6% | 7% | 9% | 8% |

| | <i>Total</i> | <i>Coalition</i> | <i>Labor</i> | <i>Greens</i> | <i>One Nation</i> | <i>Independent / Other</i> |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Excellent | 14% | 26% | 7% | 5% | 8% | 8% |
| Above Average | 13% | 19% | 8% | 11% | 12% | 10% |
| Average | 29% | 31% | 31% | 27% | 23% | 24% |
| Below Average | 18% | 14% | 23% | 20% | 19% | 16% |
| Extremely Poor | 17% | 6% | 23% | 31% | 23% | 23% |
| Don't know/Not sure | 8% | 5% | 8% | 6% | 15% | 19% |