

# Polling - Integrity commission

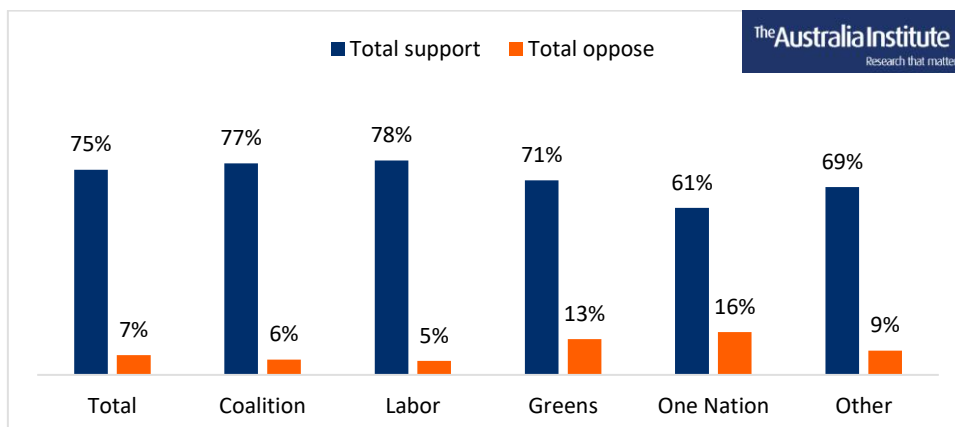
*March 2022*

## Key results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,000 Australians about the introduction and role of a Commonwealth Integrity Commission or a National Anti-Corruption Commission.

- Three in four Australians (75%) support setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission, compared to 7% who oppose it.
- Support for setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is highest among Coalition (77%) and Labor (78%) voters, with 38% of Coalition voters and 45% of Labor voters in strong support.
- When asked which from a list of eight powers are necessary for an effective integrity commission, most say all eight are needed.
- Two in five Australians (43%) say implementing a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is a major election issue for them (35%) or the top issue (8%).
- Australians are more likely to say that Labor would implement an effective Commonwealth Integrity Commission than the Coalition (40% and 29% respectively), with 31% choosing “Don’t know/Not sure”.
- Seven in 10 Australians (69%) agree that not legislating an integrity commission represents a broken election promise by the Coalition.

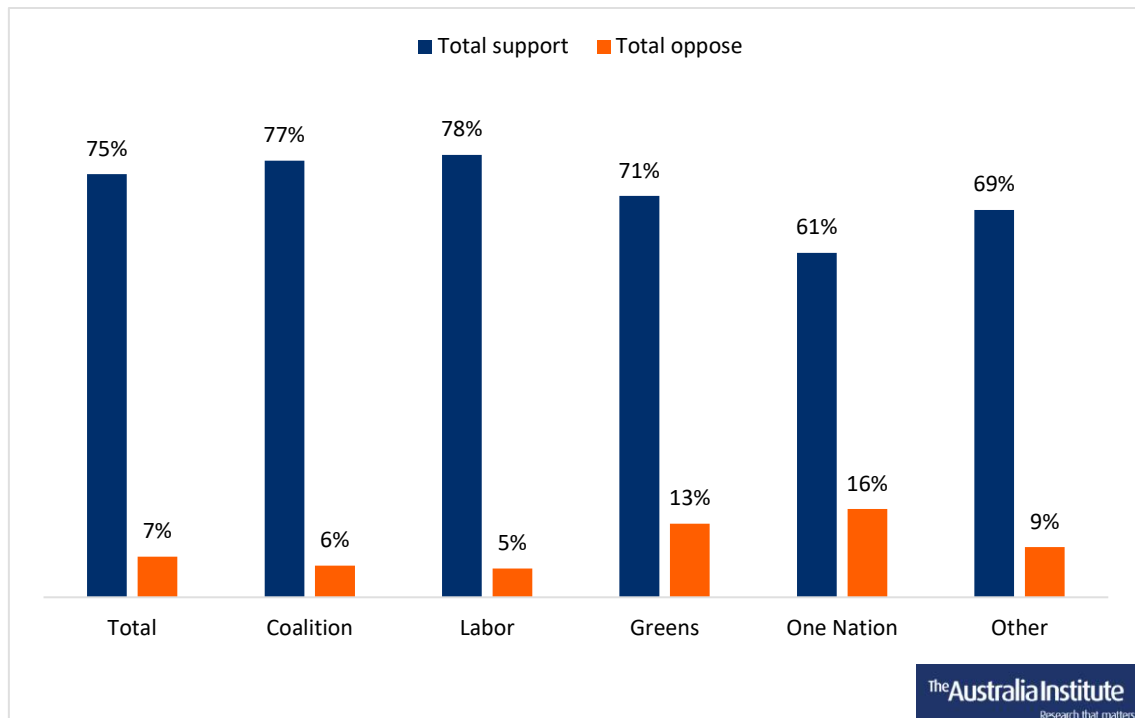
**Figure: Support for a Commonwealth Integrity Commission, by voting intention**



Respondents were told that “A Commonwealth Integrity Commission or National Anti-Corruption Commission would investigate corruption within federal law enforcement, the public service, service providers, contractors, federal parliamentarians and their staff”, and then asked if they would support or oppose setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission.

- Three in four Australians (75%) support setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission, compared to 7% who oppose it.
- Support for setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is highest among Coalition (77%) and Labor (78%) voters, with 38% of Coalition voters and 45% of Labor voters in strong support.

**Figure 1: Support for a Commonwealth Integrity Commission, by voting intention**

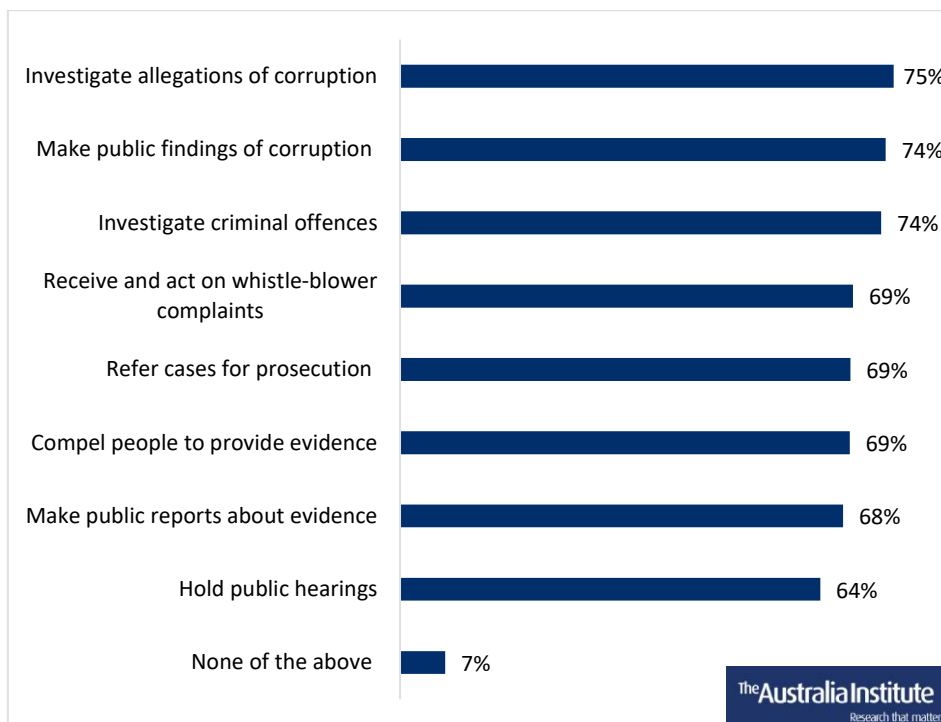


- A majority of men, women and people of all age groups support setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission.
  - Support is higher among men than women (81% and 69% respectively).
  - Two in three Australians (64%) aged 18–29 support setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission, increasing to three in four (75–77%) for those aged 30–59, and four in five (80%) for those over 60 years of age.
- A majority of Australians in the four larger states support setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission, with support highest in Victoria (78%) and NSW (77%), followed by Queensland (73%) and Western Australia (69%).

Respondents were presented with a list of options for the powers that a Commonwealth Integrity Commission and asked which, if any, they thought would be necessary for an effective commission.

- Most Australians identify all eight powers as necessary for an effective commission.
- Three in four (74–75%) identify investigating allegations of corruption, making public findings of corruption and investigating criminal offences as necessary powers.
- Over two in three (68–69%) identify receiving and acting on whistle-blower complaints, referring cases to prosecution, compelling people to provide evidence and making public reports about evidence as necessary powers.
- 64% identify holding public hearings as a necessary power for an effective Commonwealth Integrity Commission.

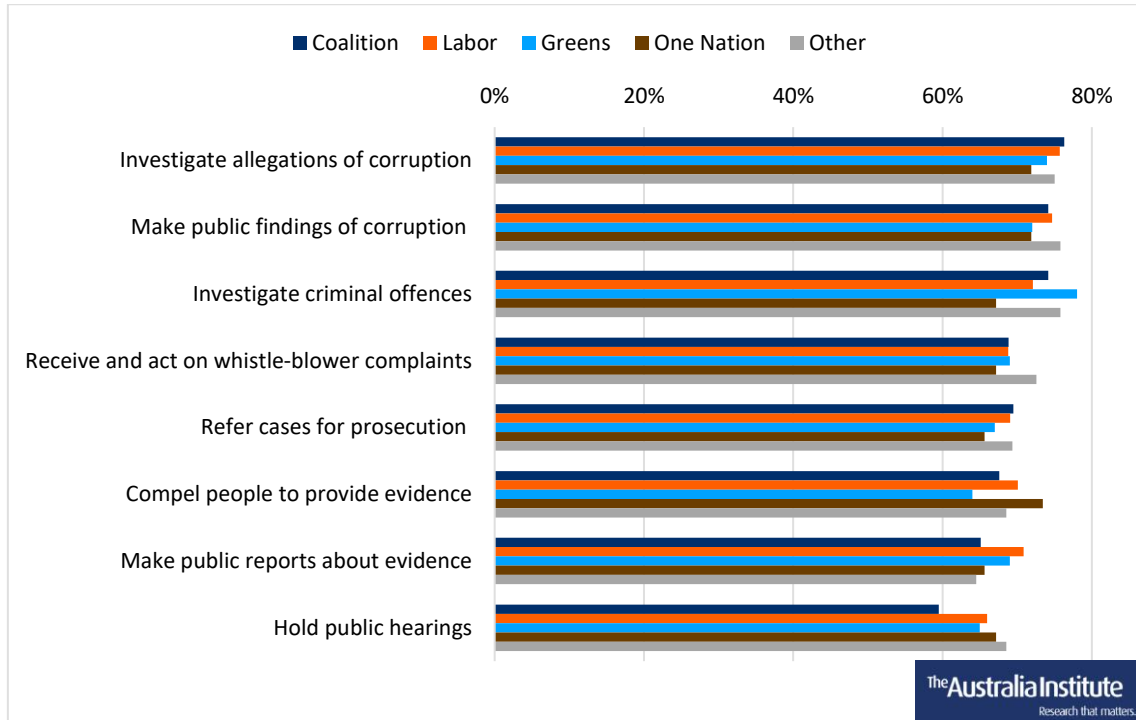
**Figure 2: Necessary powers for an effective commission**



There is little variation by voting intention on the necessary powers for an effective Commonwealth Integrity Commission.

- For every power, a majority of each voting intention thought that power was necessary for an effective commission.
- Overall, there was no apparent trend of one voting intention favouring more powers than another voting intention.

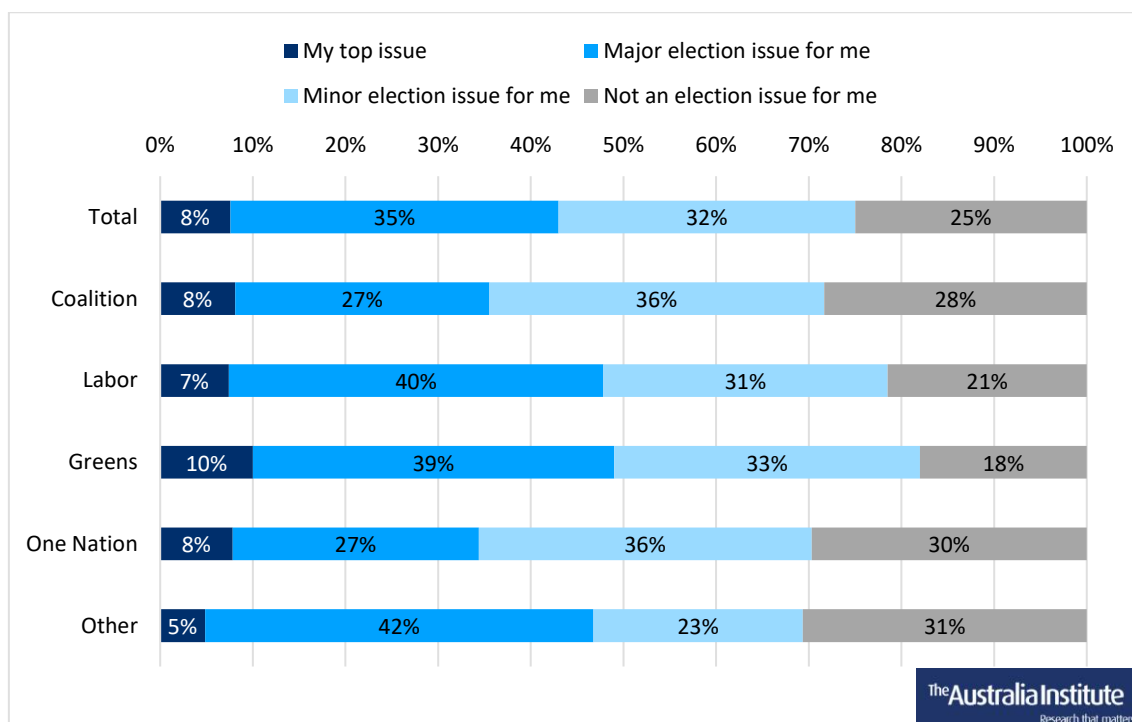
**Figure 3: Necessary powers for an effective commission, by voting intention**



Respondents were asked if implementing a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is an election issue for them.

- Two in five Australians (43%) say implementing a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is a major election issue for them (35%) or the top issue (8%).
- 32% say implementing a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is a minor election issue for them, and 25% say it is not an election issue for them.
- Labor, Greens and Independent/Other voters are most likely to say implementing a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is a major or the top election issue for them (48%, 49% and 47% respectively).
- One in three Coalition voters say implementing a Commonwealth Integrity Commission is a major or the top election issue for them (36%), including 8% for whom it is their top election issue.

**Figure 4: Commonwealth Integrity Commission an election issue for you**



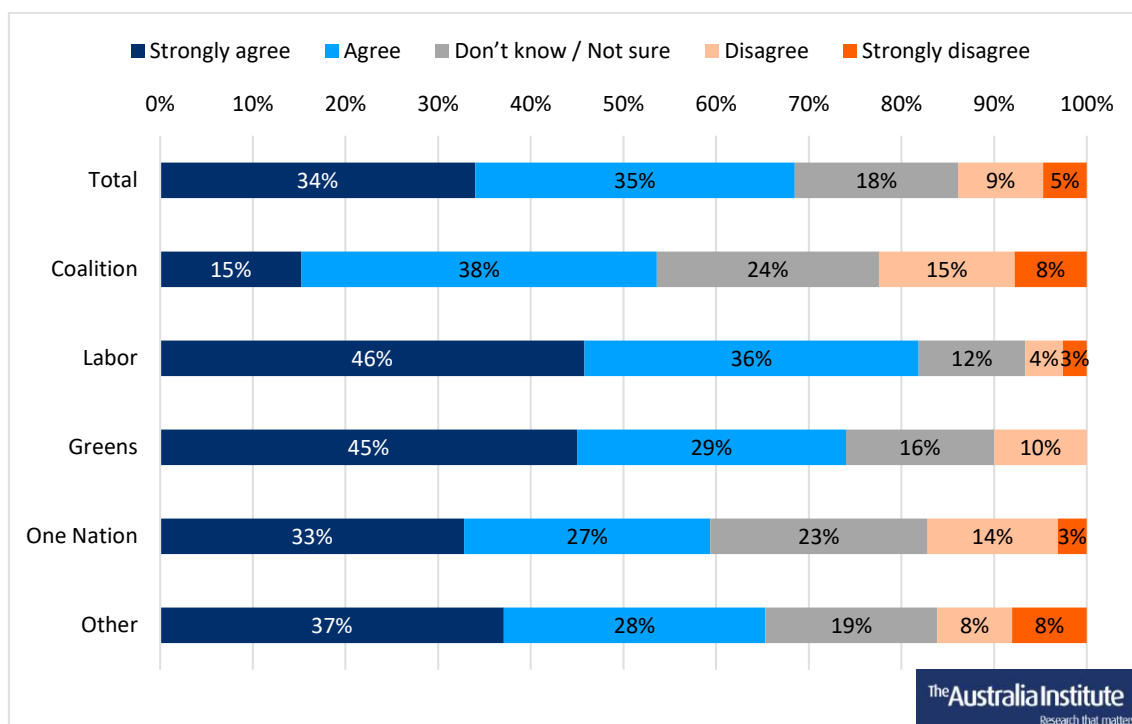
Respondents were asked which party they believe is more likely to implement an effective Commonwealth Integrity Commission if they win the next election.

- Australians are more likely to say that Labor would implement an effective Commonwealth Integrity Commission than the Coalition (40% and 29% respectively), with 31% choosing “Don’t know/Not sure”.

Respondents were told that “In December 2018, ahead of the 2019 election, the Morrison Government committed to legislating a Commonwealth Integrity Commission to investigate corruption. Over three years later, the Morrison Government has not yet legislated a Commonwealth Integrity Commission”. They were then asked whether they agreed or disagreed that this represents a broken election promise.

- Seven in 10 Australians (69%) agree that not legislating an integrity commission represents a broken election promise by the Coalition, including 34% who strongly agree.
- Among all voting intentions, a majority agree that the not legislating an integrity commission represents a broken election promise, including 54% of Coalition voters, 82% of Labor voters, 74% of Greens voters, 59% of One Nation voters and 65% of Independent/Other voters.

**Figure 5: Not legislating an integrity commission is a broken election promise**



## Method

The Australia Institute surveyed 1,000 adults living in Australia from 22 to 25 February 2022, online through Dynata's panel, with nationally representative samples by gender, age and region.

The results were weighted by three variables (gender x age group x state/territory) based on the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics data, using the raking method. This resulted in an effective sample size of 963.

The margin of error (95% confidence level) for the national results is 3%.

Results are shown only for larger states.

Federal lower house voting intention questions appeared just after the initial demographic questions, before policy questions.

Respondents who answered "Don't know / Not sure" for voting intention questions were then asked a leaning question.

The 2PP result was calculated by recorded preferences at the last election.

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" refers to Independent/Other.



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## Detailed results

No preceding questions in the poll are expected to have influenced the results of the questions published here.

**A Commonwealth Integrity Commission or National Anti-Corruption Commission would investigate corruption within federal law enforcement, the public service, service providers, contractors, federal parliamentarians and their staff.**

**Do you support or oppose setting up a Commonwealth Integrity Commission?**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Strongly support</b>	41%	46%	36%	41%	41%	44%	37%
<b>Support</b>	34%	35%	33%	36%	32%	34%	31%
<b>Oppose</b>	6%	5%	6%	7%	5%	4%	4%
<b>Strongly oppose</b>	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%
<b>Don't know/Not sure</b>	18%	12%	23%	15%	21%	15%	25%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
<b>Strongly support</b>	41%	38%	45%	44%	30%	39%
<b>Support</b>	34%	39%	33%	27%	31%	30%
<b>Oppose</b>	6%	5%	4%	11%	11%	4%
<b>Strongly oppose</b>	2%	0%	1%	2%	5%	5%
<b>Don't know/Not sure</b>	18%	17%	17%	16%	23%	23%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18-29</i>	<i>30-39</i>	<i>40-49</i>	<i>50-59</i>	<i>60+</i>
<b>Strongly support</b>	41%	29%	38%	41%	45%	50%
<b>Support</b>	34%	35%	37%	35%	33%	30%
<b>Oppose</b>	6%	12%	4%	5%	5%	4%
<b>Strongly oppose</b>	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%	1%
<b>Don't know/Not sure</b>	18%	23%	18%	18%	16%	16%



The Federal government’s proposed Commonwealth Integrity Commission would investigate systemic corruption within federal law enforcement, the public service, service providers, contractors, federal parliamentarians and their staff.

In your opinion which, if any, of the following powers would be necessary for an effective commission?

Where applicable, answers include those who nominated “All of the above”.

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>WA</b>
Receive and act on whistle-blower complaints	69%	70%	68%	65%	70%	70%	75%
Hold public hearings	64%	63%	65%	62%	61%	66%	71%
Compel people to provide evidence	69%	71%	67%	65%	70%	69%	74%
Investigate criminal offences	74%	75%	73%	68%	76%	76%	79%
Investigate allegations of corruption	75%	77%	74%	71%	75%	78%	85%
Make public reports about evidence	68%	69%	67%	65%	67%	71%	74%
Make public findings of corruption	74%	76%	72%	71%	76%	76%	78%
Refer cases for prosecution	69%	73%	65%	65%	70%	73%	72%
All of the above	52%	52%	52%	50%	51%	53%	62%
None of the above	7%	4%	9%	8%	7%	7%	10%

	<b>Total</b>	<b>18-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>60+</b>
Receive and act on whistle-blower complaints	69%	48%	60%	68%	79%	86%
Hold public hearings	64%	56%	60%	59%	68%	76%
Compel people to provide evidence	69%	45%	62%	68%	79%	84%
Investigate criminal offences	74%	58%	64%	73%	79%	89%
Investigate allegations of corruption	75%	56%	70%	76%	81%	89%
Make public reports about evidence	68%	55%	60%	65%	76%	80%
Make public findings of corruption	74%	53%	68%	73%	82%	88%
Refer cases for prosecution	69%	48%	60%	68%	79%	84%
All of the above	52%	35%	45%	51%	59%	67%
None of the above	7%	12%	8%	8%	4%	4%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
Receive and act on whistle-blower complaints	69%	69%	69%	69%	67%	73%
Hold public hearings	64%	60%	66%	65%	67%	69%
Compel people to provide evidence	69%	68%	70%	64%	73%	69%
Investigate criminal offences	74%	74%	72%	78%	67%	76%
Investigate allegations of corruption	75%	76%	76%	74%	72%	75%
Make public reports about evidence	68%	65%	71%	69%	66%	65%
Make public findings of corruption	74%	74%	75%	72%	72%	76%
Refer cases for prosecution	69%	69%	69%	67%	66%	69%
All of the above	52%	50%	53%	50%	56%	56%
None of the above	7%	5%	7%	6%	11%	10%

**Is implementing a Commonwealth Integrity Commission an election issue for you?**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>WA</i>
It is my top issue	8%	8%	7%	12%	7%	5%	6%
It is a major election issue for me	35%	37%	34%	36%	34%	39%	35%
It is a minor election issue for me	32%	32%	32%	31%	29%	35%	27%
It is not an election issue for me	25%	23%	27%	21%	30%	21%	31%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
It is my top issue	8%	8%	7%	10%	8%	5%
It is a major election issue for me	35%	27%	40%	39%	27%	42%
It is a minor election issue for me	32%	36%	31%	33%	36%	23%
It is not an election issue for me	25%	28%	21%	18%	30%	31%

	<i>Total</i>	<b>18-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>60+</b>
<b>It is my top issue</b>	8%	11%	9%	8%	8%	4%
<b>It is a major election issue for me</b>	35%	33%	39%	37%	34%	33%
<b>It is a minor election issue for me</b>	32%	31%	34%	31%	31%	33%
<b>It is not an election issue for me</b>	25%	26%	19%	24%	27%	30%

**Which party do you believe is more likely to implement an effective Commonwealth Integrity Commission if they win the next federal election?**

	<i>Total</i>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>WA</b>
<b>The Liberal-National Coalition</b>	29%	32%	25%	30%	30%	29%	21%
<b>The Labor Party</b>	40%	42%	39%	44%	37%	37%	48%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	31%	26%	36%	26%	33%	34%	31%

	<i>Total</i>	<b>Coalition</b>	<b>Labor</b>	<b>Greens</b>	<b>One Nation</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>The Liberal-National Coalition</b>	29%	67%	4%	22%	20%	16%
<b>The Labor Party</b>	40%	10%	76%	41%	16%	19%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	31%	24%	20%	37%	64%	65%

	<i>Total</i>	<b>18-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>60+</b>
<b>The Liberal-National Coalition</b>	29%	26%	28%	27%	25%	37%
<b>The Labor Party</b>	40%	46%	40%	40%	46%	31%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	31%	28%	33%	33%	29%	32%

In December 2018, ahead of the 2019 election, the Morrison Government committed to legislating a Commonwealth Integrity Commission to investigate corruption.

Over three years later, the Morrison Government has not yet legislated a Commonwealth Integrity Commission. Do you agree or disagree that this represents a broken election promise?

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Strongly agree</b>	34%	36%	32%	31%	34%	39%	35%
<b>Agree</b>	35%	34%	35%	38%	31%	34%	33%
<b>Disagree</b>	9%	11%	7%	9%	11%	8%	9%
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	5%	6%	4%	5%	3%	6%	4%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	18%	13%	22%	17%	21%	14%	19%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
<b>Strongly agree</b>	34%	15%	46%	45%	33%	37%
<b>Agree</b>	35%	38%	36%	29%	27%	28%
<b>Disagree</b>	9%	15%	4%	10%	14%	8%
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	5%	8%	3%	0%	3%	8%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	18%	24%	12%	16%	23%	19%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18-29</i>	<i>30-39</i>	<i>40-49</i>	<i>50-59</i>	<i>60+</i>
<b>Strongly agree</b>	34%	30%	29%	34%	40%	37%
<b>Agree</b>	35%	34%	40%	38%	31%	29%
<b>Disagree</b>	9%	10%	10%	5%	9%	12%
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	5%	6%	3%	5%	4%	6%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	18%	21%	17%	18%	17%	16%