

# Polling - Voting behaviour and gender

## July 2022

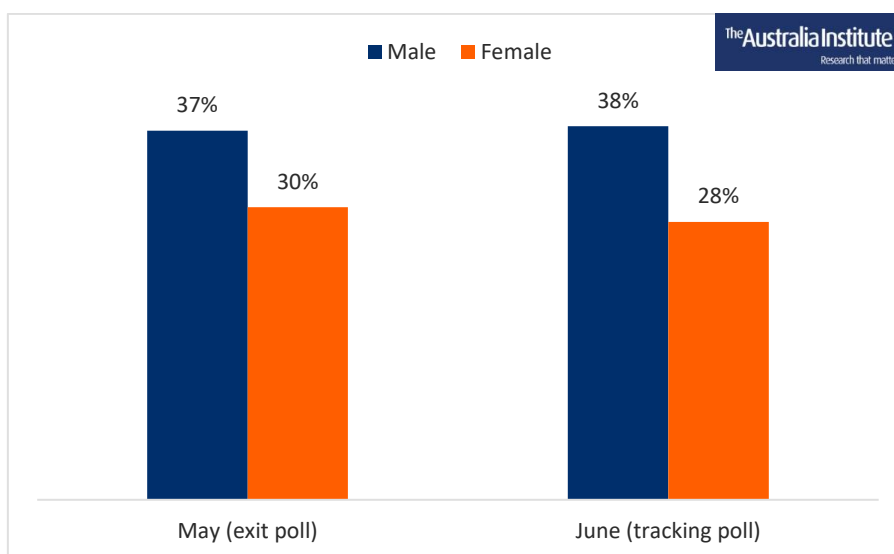
### Key results

The Australia Institute conducted a special exit poll, surveying a nationally representative sample 1,424 Australians from 6pm Saturday May 21, which asked how they voted in the 2022 federal election and about the strengths and weaknesses of the major parties in the election. Three weeks after the election, the Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,001 Australians about their voting intentions.

The results show that

- Australians think that ‘the treatment of women in politics’ was the second biggest weakness for the Coalition in the federal election (66%), out of a list of 20 options, behind ‘the state of aged care’ (67%).
- There was a 7 percentage point gap between the male and female Coalition primary vote in the exit poll, 37% and 30% respectively.
- Three weeks after the election, the gap widened to 10 percentage points, with 28% of women saying they would vote for the Coalition, compared to 38% of male voters.

**Figure 1: Primary Coalition voting intention by gender, two polls**



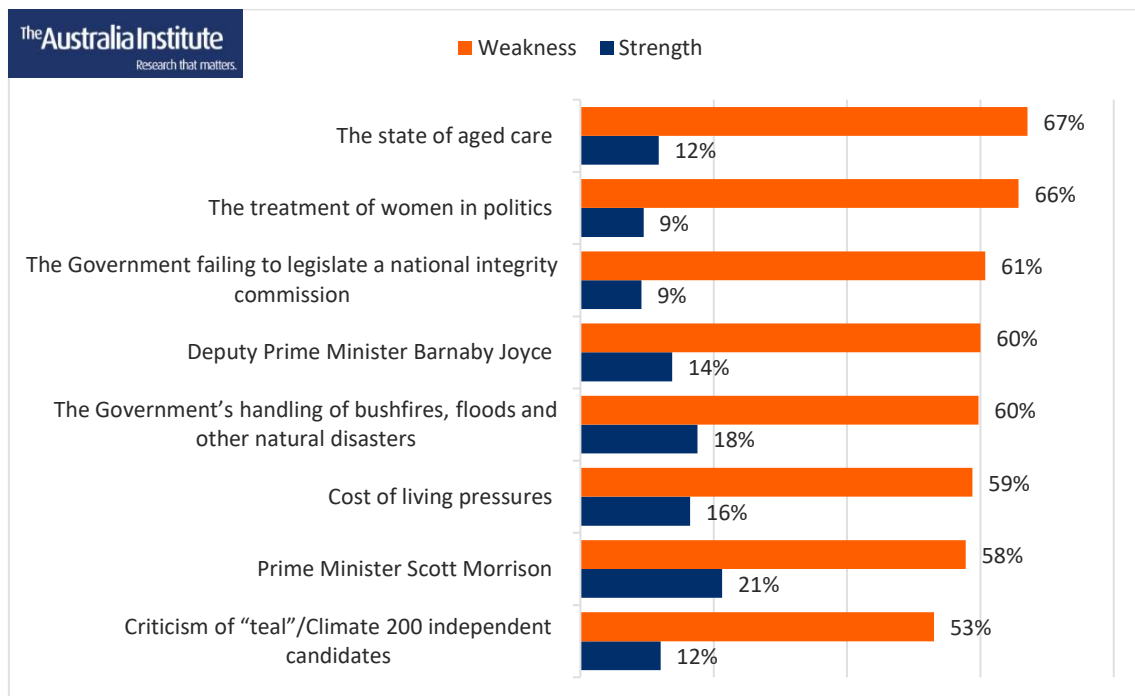
## Coalition strengths and weaknesses in the election

The Australia Institute conducted a special exit poll, surveying a nationally representative sample of 1,424 Australians from 6pm Saturday May 21 about their voting intentions and about strengths and weaknesses of the major parties in the election.

The results for the Coalition show that

- Australians think that ‘the treatment of women in politics’ was the second biggest weakness (66%) for the Coalition in the federal election, out of a list of 20 options, behind ‘the state of aged care (67%)’.
  - 9% of Australians think that ‘the treatment of women in politics’ was a strength for the Coalition and 12% think ‘the state of aged care’ was a strength.
- Two in three (66%) Australians think that the treatment of women in politics was a weakness for the Coalition in the federal election, 9% think that it was a strength.
  - An equal proportion of male and female voters think that the treatment of women in politics was a weakness for the Coalition, 66% for both.

**Figure 2: Top 8 biggest weaknesses for the Coalition in the election campaign**



Question: Thinking about the federal election, which of the following do you think were strengths for the Liberal-National Coalition (the Government) and which were weaknesses?

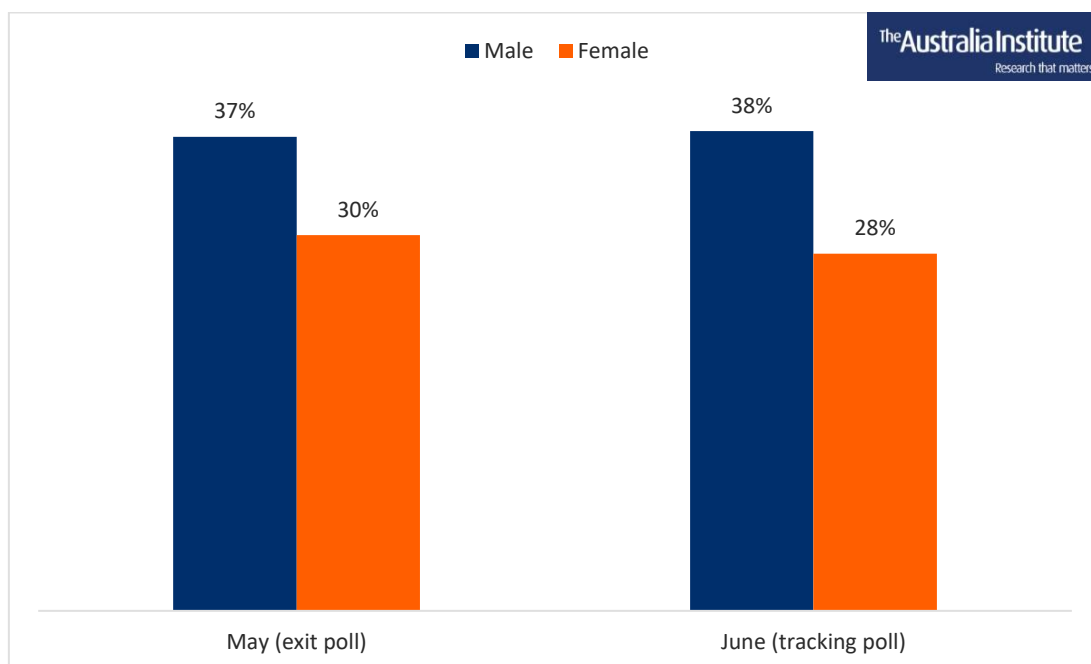
## Coalition voters by gender

Three weeks after the election (in June 2022), the Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,001 Australians asking how they would vote if an election were held tomorrow.

A comparison of these results and the exit poll results shows that

- Men are more likely than women to vote for the Coalition across the two polls.
  - There was a 7 percentage point gap between the male and female Coalition primary vote in the exit poll, 37% and 30% respectively.
  - Three weeks after the election, the gap widened to 10 percentage points, with 28% of women said they would vote for the Coalition, compared to 38% of male voters.<sup>1</sup>
- By comparison, the female vote is higher than the male vote for Labor (42% compared to 40%), the Greens (12% compared to 9%) and One Nation (5% compared to 3%) in the exit poll.

**Figure 3: Primary Coalition vote by gender, two polls**



<sup>1</sup> Note: the change in female and voting intention between the two polls is within the margin of error.

## Method (May 2022 exit poll and June 2022 tracking poll)

Between 21 May and 25 May 2022, the Australia Institute conducted an exit poll surveying 1,424 adults living in Australia, online through Dynata’s panel, with nationally representative samples by gender, age group and state/territory.

Voting crosstabs show how respondents voted in the House of Representatives at the 2022 federal election.

Between 14 June and 17 June 2022, the Australia Institute conducted a tracking poll surveying 1,001 adults living in Australia, online through Dynata’s panel, with nationally representative samples by gender, age group, and state and territory.

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.

The research is compliant with the [Australian Polling Council Quality Mark standards](#). The long methodology disclosure statement follows.

### Long disclosure statement

The results were weighted by three variables (gender, age group and state or territory) based on Australian Bureau of Statistics [“National, state and territory population”](#) data, using the raking method. This resulted in an effective sample size of 1,370 for the poll in May and 996 for the poll in June.

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

Results are shown only for larger states.

Voting intention questions appeared just after the initial demographic questions, before policy questions. Respondents who answered “Don’t know / Not sure” for voting intention were then asked a leaning question; these leanings are included in voting intention crosstabs. “Coalition” includes separate responses for Liberal and National. “Other” refers to Independent/Other, and minor parties in cases where they were included in the voting intention but represent too small a sample to be reported separately in the crosstabs.



## Detailed results - Exit poll (21/05/2022)

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

**Thinking about the federal election, which of the following do you think were strengths for the Liberal–National Coalition (the Government) and which were weaknesses?**

### The interest rate increase

	<i>Total</i>	Male	Female	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA
<b>Weakness</b>	51%	49%	54%	49%	56%	53%	47%
<b>Neither</b>	36%	39%	33%	38%	33%	35%	40%
<b>Strength</b>	13%	12%	13%	14%	12%	12%	14%

### Cost of living pressures

	<i>Total</i>	Male	Female	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA
<b>Weakness</b>	59%	56%	61%	60%	57%	59%	61%
<b>Neither</b>	25%	29%	21%	22%	25%	24%	29%
<b>Strength</b>	16%	15%	18%	18%	18%	17%	10%

### The Government committing to net zero emissions by 2050

	<i>Total</i>	Male	Female	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA
<b>Weakness</b>	43%	45%	41%	42%	45%	42%	41%
<b>Neither</b>	31%	30%	32%	31%	31%	32%	31%
<b>Strength</b>	26%	25%	27%	27%	25%	25%	28%

### The Government failing to legislate a national integrity commission

	<i>Total</i>	Male	Female	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA
<b>Weakness</b>	61%	60%	61%	62%	62%	60%	55%
<b>Neither</b>	30%	28%	32%	27%	29%	32%	36%
<b>Strength</b>	9%	11%	7%	11%	9%	8%	9%

### The Government planning to pass the religious discrimination bill without a timeline to introduce protections for LGBTIQA students

	<i>Total</i>	Male	Female	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA
<b>Weakness</b>	52%	54%	50%	51%	58%	51%	46%
<b>Neither</b>	35%	33%	38%	34%	31%	38%	44%
<b>Strength</b>	13%	13%	12%	16%	11%	11%	10%

### The state of aged care

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	67%	65%	69%	64%	63%	72%	73%
<b>Neither</b>	21%	23%	19%	22%	22%	20%	16%
<b>Strength</b>	12%	12%	11%	13%	15%	8%	10%

### The Government legislating the stage three income tax cuts

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	38%	36%	39%	36%	38%	41%	36%
<b>Neither</b>	33%	33%	33%	33%	33%	31%	33%
<b>Strength</b>	29%	31%	28%	31%	29%	28%	31%

### The issue of transgender women competing in sport

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	45%	45%	44%	43%	48%	45%	42%
<b>Neither</b>	42%	41%	42%	40%	41%	42%	48%
<b>Strength</b>	14%	14%	13%	17%	11%	13%	10%

### The Government's support for coal and gas projects

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	50%	50%	50%	50%	48%	53%	46%
<b>Neither</b>	28%	26%	31%	24%	32%	23%	34%
<b>Strength</b>	22%	25%	20%	26%	20%	24%	21%

### The Government's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	48%	47%	48%	44%	51%	49%	48%
<b>Neither</b>	22%	23%	22%	22%	24%	21%	19%
<b>Strength</b>	30%	30%	30%	34%	25%	30%	33%

### The Government's handling of bushfires, floods and other natural disasters

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	60%	62%	58%	55%	62%	61%	59%
<b>Neither</b>	23%	22%	23%	21%	23%	21%	31%
<b>Strength</b>	18%	16%	19%	23%	15%	18%	10%

### How the Government distributes grant money

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	53%	54%	52%	51%	51%	57%	52%
<b>Neither</b>	32%	30%	34%	31%	33%	28%	39%
<b>Strength</b>	15%	16%	15%	17%	16%	16%	9%

### Prosecution of whistleblowers

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	50%	50%	49%	48%	50%	53%	46%
<b>Neither</b>	39%	36%	41%	36%	39%	39%	44%
<b>Strength</b>	12%	13%	11%	15%	12%	8%	9%

### Criticism of “teal”/Climate 200 independent candidates

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	53%	53%	53%	51%	56%	54%	55%
<b>Neither</b>	35%	33%	37%	35%	32%	34%	36%
<b>Strength</b>	12%	14%	10%	15%	12%	12%	9%

### The endorsements from the Australian Financial Review, Daily Telegraph, Courier Mail and The Australian

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	41%	41%	40%	37%	40%	48%	38%
<b>Neither</b>	43%	39%	46%	45%	40%	39%	48%
<b>Strength</b>	17%	20%	14%	18%	20%	14%	14%

### The treatment of women in politics

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	66%	66%	66%	64%	65%	66%	67%
<b>Neither</b>	25%	25%	25%	26%	26%	25%	25%
<b>Strength</b>	9%	10%	9%	10%	9%	9%	8%

### The Government’s plan to let first-home buyers dip into their superannuation

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	44%	43%	45%	43%	44%	46%	47%
<b>Neither</b>	29%	30%	27%	28%	29%	24%	33%
<b>Strength</b>	27%	26%	28%	28%	27%	30%	20%

**The Government's economic management record**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	41%	39%	44%	39%	41%	44%	44%
<b>Neither</b>	27%	27%	28%	27%	30%	24%	27%
<b>Strength</b>	31%	34%	28%	34%	29%	33%	29%

**Prime Minister Scott Morrison**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	58%	56%	59%	56%	61%	58%	58%
<b>Neither</b>	21%	22%	20%	22%	20%	21%	20%
<b>Strength</b>	21%	22%	21%	23%	19%	21%	22%

**Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Weakness</b>	60%	58%	62%	56%	60%	63%	62%
<b>Neither</b>	26%	26%	27%	27%	26%	26%	24%
<b>Strength</b>	14%	16%	12%	17%	14%	12%	14%

**Who did you vote for in the House of Representatives (lower house) in the federal election?**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Coalition</b>	33%	37%	30%	37%	30%	33%	36%
<b>Labor</b>	41%	40%	42%	41%	41%	40%	40%
<b>Greens</b>	11%	9%	12%	8%	14%	12%	9%
<b>PHON</b>	4%	3%	5%	5%	5%	4%	4%
<b>Independent/ Other</b>	11%	11%	11%	10%	10%	12%	12%



## Detailed results (14/06/2022)

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

**If a federal election were held tomorrow, which of the following parties would you vote for in the House of Representatives (lower house)?**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Liberal</b>	28%	32%	24%	29%	25%	32%	24%
<b>Labor</b>	34%	33%	34%	36%	34%	32%	31%
<b>Greens</b>	12%	10%	14%	11%	10%	14%	14%
<b>Nationals</b>	3%	4%	2%	3%	2%	3%	5%
<b>PHON</b>	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	2%	2%
<b>UAP</b>	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%	6%
<b>Independent / Other</b>	7%	5%	9%	5%	9%	5%	8%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	9%	7%	11%	8%	11%	9%	9%

**If you're not sure, to which of the following do you have a leaning?**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>Liberal</b>	19%	25%	16%	11%	25%	11%	22%
<b>Labor</b>	23%	25%	23%	15%	39%	11%	11%
<b>Greens</b>	10%	8%	11%	15%	7%	11%	0%
<b>Nationals</b>	1%	3%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%
<b>PHON</b>	5%	0%	9%	7%	4%	6%	0%
<b>UAP</b>	3%	6%	2%	4%	4%	0%	11%
<b>Independent/Other</b>	39%	33%	39%	44%	21%	61%	56%