

Polling - Voice to Parliament in the Constitution

July 2022

Key results

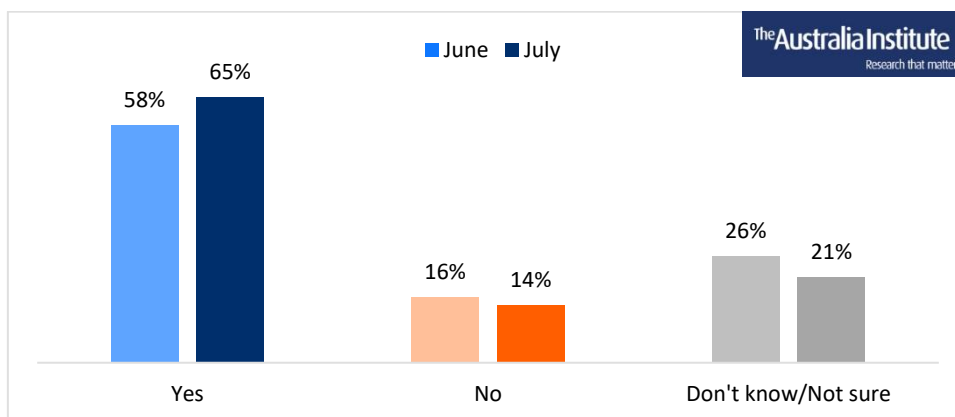
The Australia Institute surveyed nationally representative samples of about 1,000 Australians in June and July 2022 about their attitudes towards a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament for First Nations peoples as called for in the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

The respondents were asked how they would vote in a referendum on enshrining a Voice to Parliament for First Nations peoples in the Constitution.

The results show that

- Nearly two in three Australians (65%) surveyed in July would vote “Yes” to enshrine a Voice to Parliament for First Nations peoples in the Constitution.
- Support for the amendment has increased from June, when 58% of respondents said they would support a constitutional amendment.
- More Australians say they do not know how they would vote than say they would vote against the amendment (21% vs 14% in July).
- Support for a constitutionally enshrined Voice is highest among Greens voters (71% in June, 82% in July) followed by Labor voters (68% in June, 70% in July).
- Support is similar across the four large states (57–59% in June, 62–71% in July).

Figure 1: Vote on amendment enshrining the Voice in the Constitution



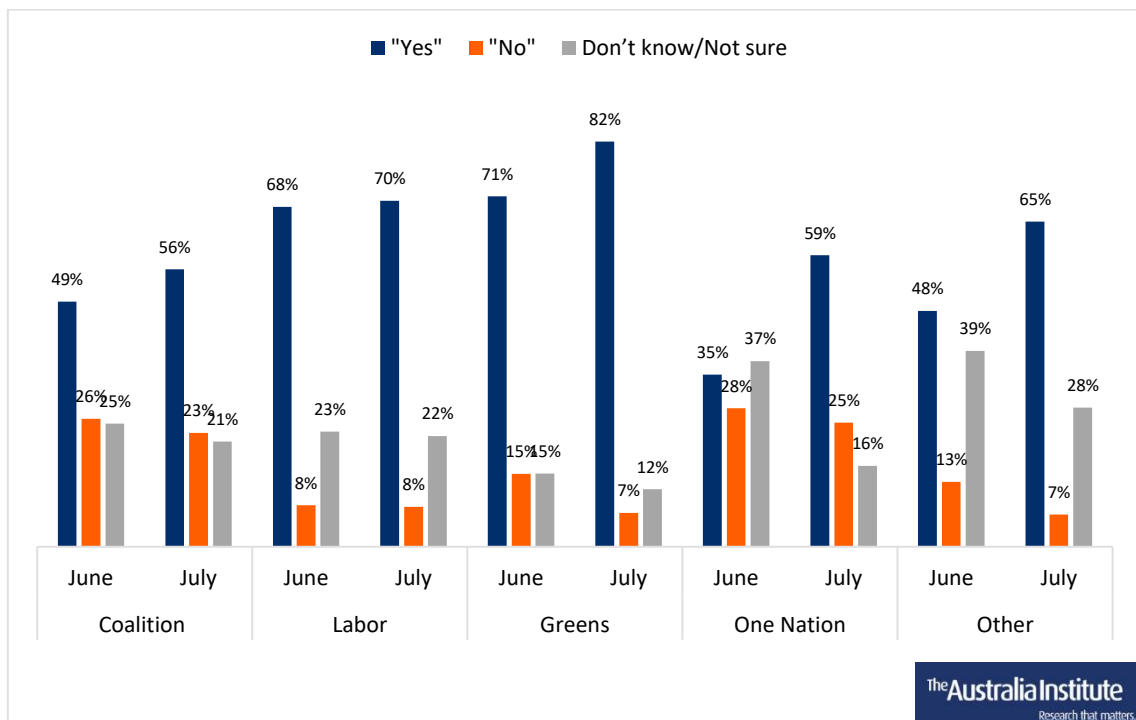
Note: In June, respondents were asked whether they would vote to support or oppose the amendment; in July, they were asked if they would vote “Yes” or “No” on the amendment.

Respondents were told that the Uluru Statement from the Heart “calls for a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (First Nations) peoples” and that a referendum would be required to achieve this.

They were then asked whether they would vote to support or oppose including a First Nations Voice to Parliament in the Constitution.

- Nearly two in three Australians (65%) surveyed in July would vote “Yes” to enshrine a Voice to Parliament for First Nations peoples in the Constitution, up from 58% in June.
 - About one in six Australians (14%–16%) said they would vote “No”.
 - Over one in five (21%–26%) said they do not know or are not sure how they would vote.
- Greens voters are most likely to say they would vote “Yes” to enshrine the Voice (71%–82%), followed by Labor voters (68–70%).
- In the July poll, a majority of all voting intentions said they would vote “Yes”.
 - In the June poll, “Yes” exceeded “No” across all voting intentions, but less than half of Coalition, One Nation and Independent/Other voters said they would vote “Yes”.

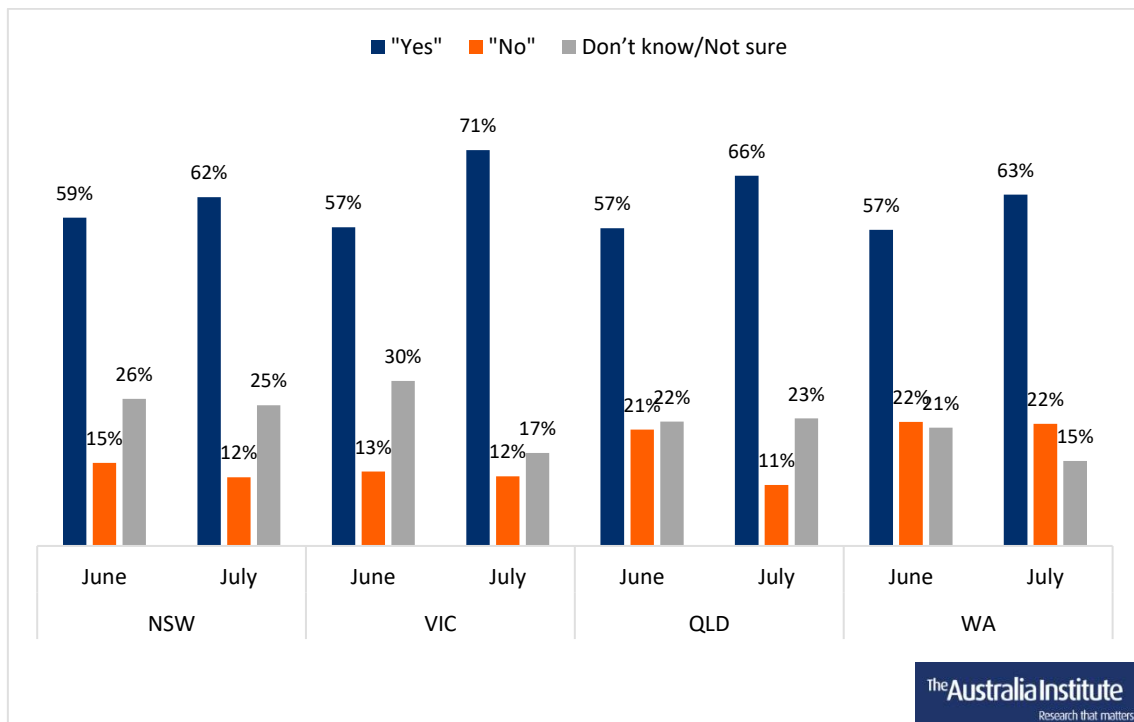
Figure 2: Vote on amendment enshrining the Voice in the Constitution (by voting intention)



A successful referendum requires a “double majority”: a majority of the nationwide vote and a majority of the vote in a majority of the states (four of the six).

- In each of the four largest states, a majority would vote for an amendment to enshrine a Voice in the Constitution (57–59% in June and 62–71% in July).
- Between one in 10 and one in five in each large state say they would vote against an amendment (13–22% in June and 11–22% in July).
- In each large state, more say they “Don’t know” how they would vote than say they would vote against an amendment.

Figure 3: Vote on amendment enshrining the Voice in the Constitution (by state)



The July survey tweaks the question in two significant ways: it clarifies that enshrining the Voice in the Constitution requires a referendum, to avoid implying that the Voice requires a referendum (a Voice could be legislated without a referendum) and it asks respondents whether they would vote “Yes” or “No” on the amendment rather than whether they would vote to “support” or “oppose” the amendment.

Method

Between 14 and 17 June 2022, The Australia Institute surveyed 1,001 adults living in Australia, online through Dynata’s panel, with nationally representative samples by gender, age group, and state and territory. Between 13 and 15 July 2022, The Australia Institute conducted another survey of 1,001 adults in the same way. 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 and 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 996 for the June survey and 995 for the July survey.

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.



**Australian
Polling Council
Quality Mark**

Detailed results

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

June 2022

The Uluru Statement from the Heart calls for a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (First Nations) peoples. This would require a referendum to set up a representative First Nations body to advise the Parliament on laws and policies affecting First Nations peoples.

In a referendum, would you vote to support or oppose including a First Nations Voice to Parliament in the constitution?

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
Support	58%	60%	56%	59%	57%	57%	57%
Oppose	16%	17%	15%	15%	13%	21%	22%
Don't know/Not sure	26%	23%	28%	26%	30%	22%	21%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>PHON</i>	<i>Other</i>
Support	58%	49%	68%	71%	35%	48%
Oppose	16%	26%	8%	15%	28%	13%
Don't know/Not sure	26%	25%	23%	15%	37%	39%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18-29</i>	<i>30-39</i>	<i>40-49</i>	<i>50-59</i>	<i>60+</i>
Support	58%	69%	67%	57%	56%	45%
Oppose	16%	9%	10%	18%	15%	26%
Don't know/Not sure	26%	22%	23%	25%	29%	28%

July 2022

The Uluru Statement from the Heart calls for a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (First Nations) peoples. The Voice would be a representative First Nations body to advise the Parliament on laws and policies affecting First Nations peoples. Enshrining it in the Constitution would require a referendum.

In a referendum, would you vote “Yes” or “No” on an amendment to include a First Nations Voice to Parliament in the Constitution?

	<i>Total</i>	Male	Female	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA
Support	65%	65%	65%	62%	71%	66%	63%
Oppose	14%	17%	10%	12%	12%	11%	22%
Don't know/Not sure	21%	18%	25%	25%	17%	23%	15%

	<i>Total</i>	Coalition	Labor	Greens	PHON	Other
Support	65%	56%	70%	82%	59%	65%
Oppose	14%	23%	8%	7%	25%	7%
Don't know/Not sure	21%	21%	22%	12%	16%	28%

	<i>Total</i>	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
Support	65%	85%	74%	70%	50%	51%
Oppose	14%	6%	9%	7%	21%	22%
Don't know/Not sure	21%	9%	17%	23%	29%	27%