

Polling - Government appointments

February 2023

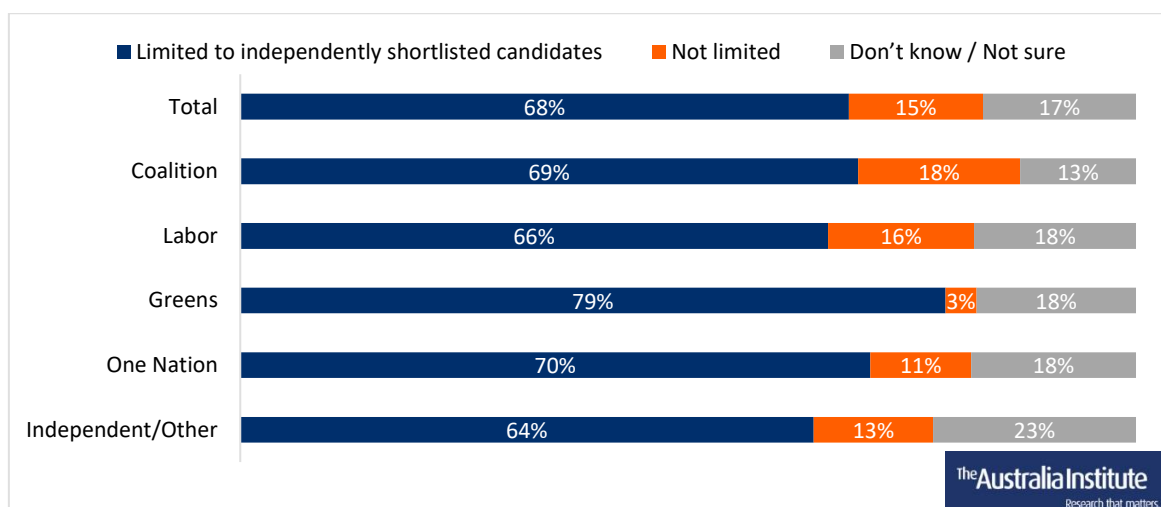
Key results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,000 Australians about how the Government should make appointments to government bodies.

Two in three Australians (68%) think that the Government should be limited to appointing candidates who have been shortlisted by an independent selection panel, four times as many as think the Government should be able to appoint whomever it likes (15%).

- Most Australians think that the Government should be limited to appointing candidates who have been shortlisted by an independent selection panel, irrespective of voting intention (64–79%).
- Four in five Greens voters think the Government should be limited to shortlisted candidates (79%).
 - Less than one in 20 (3%) think the Government should be able to appoint whomever it likes (18% weren't sure).
- Across all other voting intentions, fewer than one in five think the Government should be able to appoint whomever it likes (3–18%).

Figure 1: Whether appointments should be limited, by voting intention



Method

Between 14 and 17 February 2023, The Australia Institute surveyed 1,000 adults living in Australia were surveyed 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 and territory) based on Australian Bureau of Statistics [“National, state and territory population”](#) data, using the raking method. Those who answered the gender identity question as "Non-binary", "I use a different term", or "Prefer not to answer" had their responses included with females for the purpose of reporting, due to constraints from weighting data availability. This resulted in an effective sample size of 953.

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

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.



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Detailed results

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

The Government is responsible for making many appointments, such as to the boards of government bodies like Australia Post, the ABC and the Australian War Memorial.

Which is closer to your preference?

Response options were presented in random order.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
The Government should be able to appoint whomever it likes	15%	20%	11%	16%	18%	11%	16%
The Government should be limited to appointing candidates who have been shortlisted by an independent selection panel	68%	68%	68%	70%	67%	71%	58%
Don't know / Not sure	17%	12%	22%	14%	16%	17%	26%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>PHON</i>	<i>Other</i>
The Government should be able to appoint whomever it likes	15%	18%	16%	3%	11%	13%
The Government should be limited to appointing candidates who have been shortlisted by an independent selection panel	68%	69%	66%	79%	70%	64%
Don't know / Not sure	17%	13%	18%	18%	18%	23%