

Polling - Fossil fuel levy

February 2024

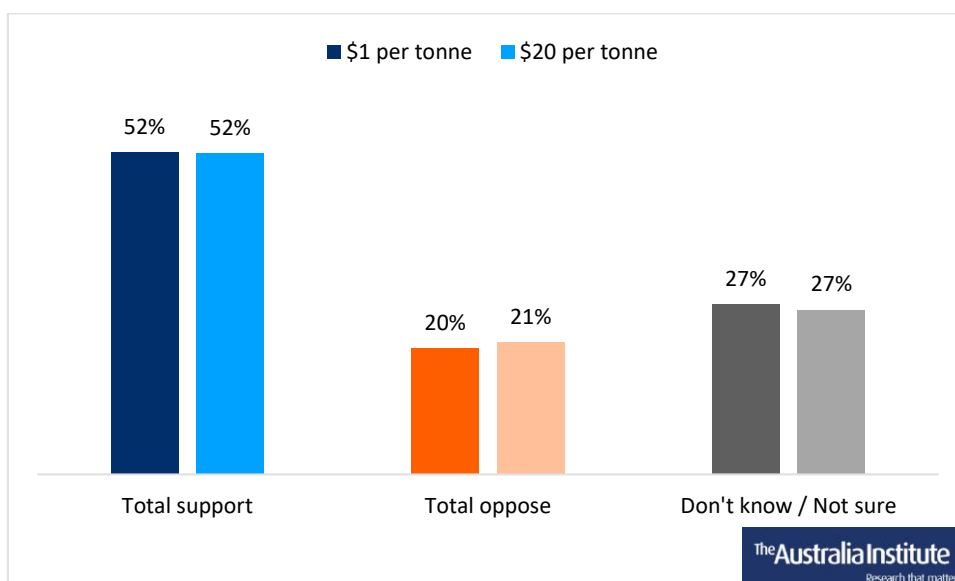
Key results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,017 Australians about a proposed levy on fossil fuel exports. 508 respondents were asked whether they would support a levy of \$1 per tonne of emissions (raising around \$1.5 billion per year) and 509 whether they would support a levy of \$20 per tonne (raising around \$30 billion per year).

The results show that more than twice as many Australians support a levy as oppose it, regardless of its size.

- Half of Australians support a levy, regardless of whether it is set at \$1 per tonne (52% support) or \$20 per tonne (also 52% support).
- One in five Australians oppose a levy, regardless of whether it is set at \$1 per tonne (20% oppose) or \$20 per tonne (21% oppose).
- One in four Australians do not know if they support or oppose a levy, again regardless of the level it is set at (27% for both).

Figure 1: A levy on fossil fuel exports



Respondents were randomly split into two equally-sized groups. Both were given the same information:

A Climate Damage Compensation Levy on fossil fuel exports would compensate Australians for the costs incurred due to climate change, including from natural disasters and higher insurance premiums.

Respondents in the first group were asked to what extent they would support or oppose a levy of \$1 per tonne of emissions, which would raise about \$1.5 billion per year.

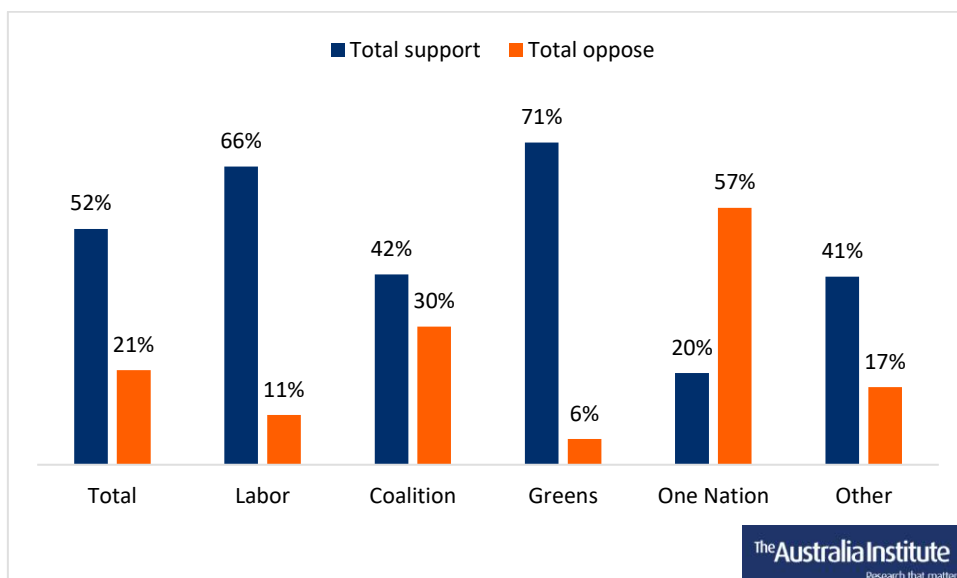
Respondents in the second group were asked to what extent they would support or oppose a levy of \$20 per tonne of emissions, which would raise about \$30 billion per year.

As shown in Figure 1 above, there is little difference in support regardless of the level that the levy is set at.

Among most voting intentions, more support than oppose the levy.

- More support than oppose a levy on fossil fuel exports among Labor voters (66% support vs 11% oppose), Coalition voters (42% support vs 30%), Greens voters (71% support vs 6% oppose) and Independent/Other voters (41% support vs 17% oppose).
- Only among One Nation voters do more oppose than support a fossil fuel export levy (57% oppose vs 20% support).

Figure 2: A levy on fossil fuel exports, by voting intention



Note: Total support and oppose has been averaged across the two variations of the question.

Method

Short disclosure statement

Research company	Dynata
Client commissioning the research	The Australia Institute
End client	NA
Fieldwork dates	23 to 29 January 2024
Mode of data collection	Online recruited from research panel
Target population	Australian adults aged 18+
Sample size	1,017
Australian Polling Council compliant	Yes
Voting intention published	No
Long disclosure statement	See below

Long disclosure statement

Effective sample size after weighting applied	1,004
Margin of error associated with effective sample size	±3%
Variables used in weighting	Age, gender, state or territory based on Australian Bureau of Statistics “National, state and territory population” data
Gender identity categorisation	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
Weighting method used	Raking method
Full question text, responses categories and randomisation	See below
Source of online sample	Dynata’s online panel
Positioning of voting intention questions in questionnaire	Immediately after demographics, before policy questions
How were undecided voters handled?	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
Method of calculating 2PP	NA
Voting intention categorisation	Voting crosstabs show voting intentions for the House of Representatives. “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
Location results	Results are shown only for larger states



**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.

A Climate Damage Compensation Levy on fossil fuel exports would compensate Australians for the costs incurred due to climate change, including from natural disasters and higher insurance premiums.

A (asked of 508 respondents): To what extent would you support or oppose a levy of \$1 per tonne of emissions, which would raise around \$1.5 billion each year?

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
Strongly support	22%	22%	22%	22%	21%	20%	23%
Support	30%	33%	28%	33%	28%	28%	35%
Oppose	9%	10%	8%	9%	12%	7%	2%
Strongly oppose	12%	17%	6%	9%	11%	15%	13%
Don't know / Not sure	27%	19%	36%	27%	28%	30%	27%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18-29</i>	<i>30-39</i>	<i>40-49</i>	<i>50-59</i>	<i>60+</i>
Strongly support	22%	22%	25%	15%	22%	24%
Support	30%	36%	36%	25%	21%	29%
Oppose	9%	11%	3%	12%	13%	7%
Strongly oppose	12%	5%	7%	12%	13%	18%
Don't know / Not sure	27%	25%	29%	37%	31%	21%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
Strongly support	22%	28%	11%	44%	8%	20%
Support	30%	36%	32%	32%	8%	21%
Oppose	9%	6%	13%	0%	16%	7%
Strongly oppose	12%	3%	18%	3%	44%	8%
Don't know / Not sure	27%	26%	26%	21%	23%	43%

B (asked of 507 respondents): To what extent would you support or oppose a levy of \$20 per tonne of emissions, which would raise around \$30 billion each year?

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
Strongly support	20%	22%	19%	21%	19%	20%	22%
Support	32%	32%	31%	31%	32%	29%	33%
Oppose	12%	14%	10%	15%	11%	14%	6%
Strongly oppose	9%	12%	6%	9%	11%	9%	9%
Don't know / Not sure	27%	20%	33%	25%	27%	28%	31%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18-29</i>	<i>30-39</i>	<i>40-49</i>	<i>50-59</i>	<i>60+</i>
Strongly support	20%	25%	27%	10%	16%	21%
Support	32%	38%	38%	37%	28%	22%
Oppose	12%	9%	11%	10%	18%	14%
Strongly oppose	9%	2%	4%	12%	10%	16%
Don't know / Not sure	27%	27%	20%	31%	29%	27%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
Strongly support	20%	23%	12%	39%	7%	22%
Support	32%	45%	28%	28%	17%	19%
Oppose	12%	10%	16%	7%	18%	8%
Strongly oppose	9%	2%	14%	1%	35%	11%
Don't know / Not sure	27%	20%	29%	25%	24%	39%