

## Polling - Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT)

*February 2024*

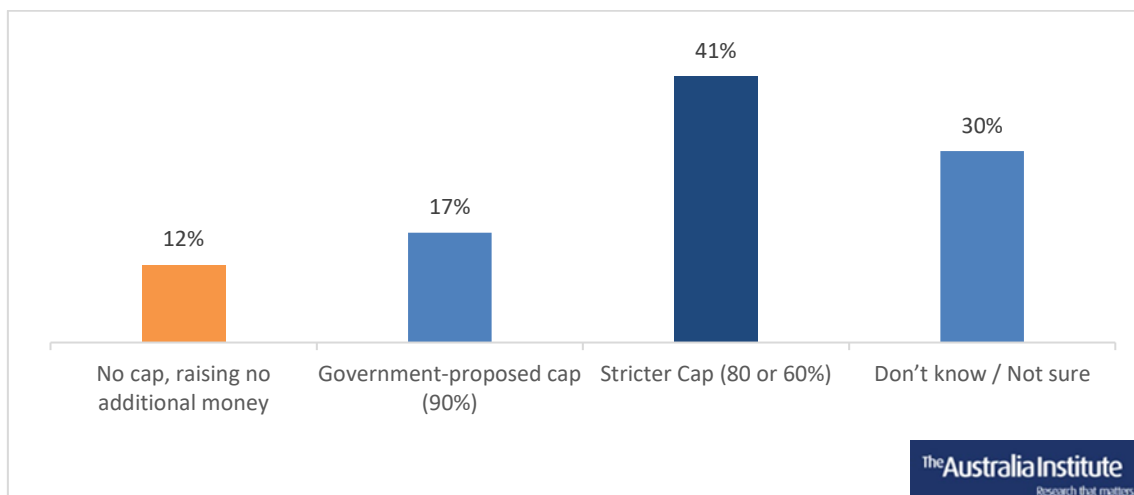
### Key results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,017 Australians about their attitude toward the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT).

The results show that:

- Six in 10 Australians (58%) support capping how much expenses companies can deduct from the PRRT they pay.
- 41% of Australians prefer a stricter cap on the amount gas companies can deduct from the PRRT than what the government is proposing.
- Only one in six Australians (17%) prefers the government-proposed cap to stricter caps.
- 55% of Greens voters, 44% of Labor voters and 38% of Coalition voters favour a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
  - Only one in five Green voters, Labor voters and Coalition voters (19% for each) prefer the government-proposed cap to stricter caps.
- More than two in five (44%) in Western Australia and 38% of people in Queensland also prefer a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- Only 12% of Australians oppose introducing a PRRT cap of any kind.

**Figure 1: Support for a cap on deductions on the PRRT**



Respondents received the following prompt:

Gas companies are subject to the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) when they extract Australia's offshore gas resources. However, the PRRT raises little money because gas companies can deduct their expenses from the tax they pay. The Australian Government is proposing a cap on the amount they can deduct equal to 90% of their revenue, which would raise an additional \$601 million per year on average. Lower deduction caps would raise more money.

There were then asked to choose which response was closest to their view of what the deduction cap should be set to.

The PRRT is designed to be a tax on 'super-profits' (unusually high profit levels) received by the oil and gas industry. In practice, it allows companies to avoid paying tax by deducting expenses from their PRRT tax bill.

The Federal Government has proposed a 90% cap on the tax-deductible expenses for oil and gas companies can deduct. Consequently, the Greens and several independents are seeking to amend the government's proposal by lowering the cap to 80%.

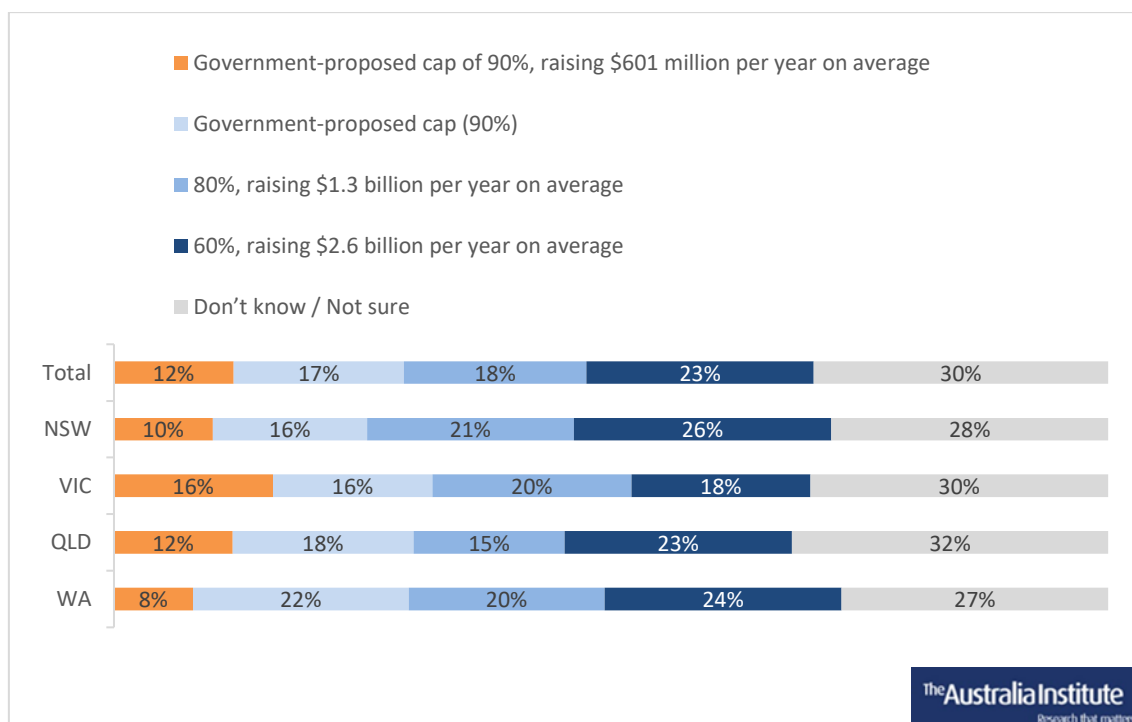
The results show that:

- Six in 10 Australians (58%) prefer capping how much expenses companies can deduct from the PRRT they pay.
- 41% of Australians prefer a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- Only 12% of Australians oppose introducing a cap of any kind.
- Three in 10 respondents (30%) answered that they did not know or were not sure. This is high for a policy question, and suggests that many Australians have not turned their minds to the PRRT.

Results by states show that:

- In New South Wales, only 17% of people favour the government’s proposition. Almost one in two people (47%) prefer a stricter cap on how much expenses companies can deduct from the PRRT they pay than what the government is proposing.
- In Western Australia, 22% of people favour the government’s proposition. More than two in five (44%) prefer a stricter cap.
- In Queensland and Victoria, one in six people prefer the government’s proposition. 38% of people prefer a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- In New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia, more choose the strictest deduction cap, which is 60%, than any other option (excluding the “Don’t know/Not sure” answer).

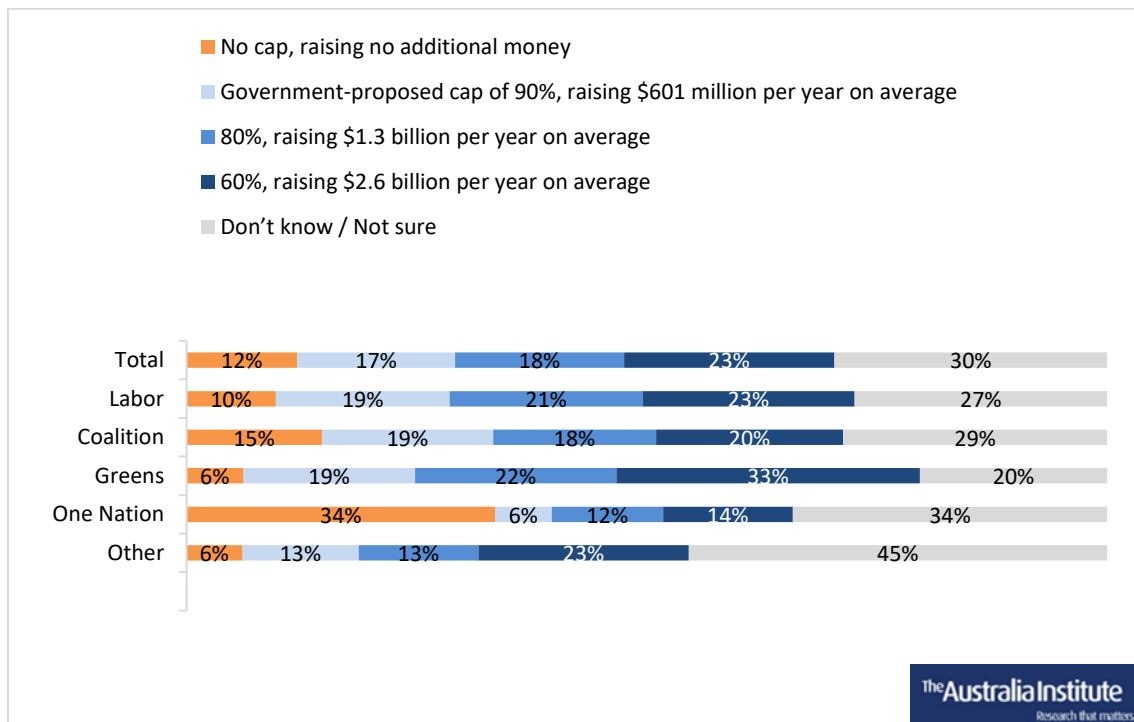
**Figure 2: Support for a cap on deductions on the PRRT, by state**



Results by voting intention show that:

- 55% of Greens voters, 44% of Labor voters and 38% of Coalition voters favour a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- Only one in five Green voters, Labor voters and Coalition voters (19% for each) prefer the government-proposed cap to stricter caps.
- When excluding the responses of those who “Don’t know/Not sure”, the most preferred option among Labor, Coalition, Greens and Other/Independent voters is for the highest deduction cap alternative of 60%.

**Figure 3: Support for a cap on deductions on the PRRT, by voting intention**



## Method - national polling

### Short disclosure statement

<b>Research company</b>	The Australia Institute
<b>Client commissioning the research</b>	NA
<b>End client</b>	NA
<b>Fieldwork dates</b>	23 January 2024 to 29 January 2024
<b>Mode of data collection</b>	Online recruited from research panel
<b>Target population</b>	Australian adults aged 18+
<b>Sample size</b>	1,017
<b>Australian Polling Council compliant</b>	Yes
<b>Voting intention published</b>	Yes
<b>Long disclosure statement</b>	See below

### Long disclosure statement

<b>Effective sample size after weighting applied</b>	1004
<b>Margin of error associated with effective sample size</b>	±3%
<b>Variables used in weighting</b>	Age, gender, state or territory based on Australian Bureau of Statistics <a href="#">"National, state and territory population"</a> data
<b>Gender identity categorisation</b>	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
<b>Weighting method used</b>	Raking method
<b>Full question text, responses categories and randomisation</b>	See below
<b>Source of online sample</b>	Dynata's online panel
<b>Positioning of voting intention questions in questionnaire</b>	Immediately after demographics, before policy questions
<b>How were undecided voters handled?</b>	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
<b>Method of calculating 2PP</b>	NA
<b>Voting intention categorisation</b>	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
<b>Location results</b>	Results are shown only for larger states



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## Detailed results

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

**Gas companies are subject to the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) when they extract Australia’s offshore gas resources. However, the PRRT raises little money because gas companies can deduct their expenses from the tax they pay.**

**The Australian Government is proposing a cap on the amount they can deduct equal to 90% of their revenue, which would raise an additional \$601 million per year on average. Lower deduction caps would raise more money.**

**Which is closest to your view of what the deduction cap should be set to?**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
<b>No cap, raising no additional money</b>	12%	16%	8%	10%	16%	12%	8%
<b>90%, raising \$601 million per year on average</b>	17%	17%	18%	16%	16%	18%	22%
<b>80%, raising \$1.3 billion per year on average</b>	18%	19%	18%	21%	20%	15%	20%
<b>60%, raising \$2.6 billion per year on average</b>	23%	27%	19%	26%	18%	23%	24%
<b>Don’t know / Not sure</b>	30%	21%	38%	28%	30%	32%	27%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
<b>No cap, raising no additional money</b>	12%	10%	15%	6%	34%	6%
<b>90%, raising \$601 million per year on average</b>	17%	19%	19%	19%	6%	13%
<b>80%, raising \$1.3 billion per year on average</b>	18%	21%	18%	22%	12%	13%
<b>60%, raising \$2.6 billion per year on average</b>	23%	23%	20%	33%	14%	23%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	30%	27%	29%	20%	34%	45%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18–29</i>	<i>30–39</i>	<i>40–49</i>	<i>50–59</i>	<i>60+</i>
<b>No cap, raising no additional money</b>	12%	10%	11%	8%	15%	15%
<b>90%, raising \$601 million per year on average</b>	17%	17%	24%	18%	14%	14%
<b>80%, raising \$1.3 billion per year on average</b>	18%	26%	20%	18%	14%	14%
<b>60%, raising \$2.6 billion per year on average</b>	23%	19%	20%	23%	22%	27%
<b>Don't know / Not sure</b>	30%	27%	24%	33%	35%	29%