Polling - Whistleblowers

Method

Short disclosure statement

Panel provider	Dynata
Research company	The Australia Institute
Client commissioning the research	NA
Fieldwork dates	18 February 2025 to 25 February 2025
Mode of data collection	Online recruited from research panel
Target population	Australian adults aged 18+
Sample size	2,009
Australian Polling Council compliant	Yes
Voting intention published	No
Long disclosure statement	See below

Long disclosure statement

Effective sample size after weighting applied	1,927
Margin of error associated with effective sample size	±2.2%
Variables used in weighting	Age, gender, state/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: Lower house voting intention was asked first, followed by upper house voting intention
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/name of state lower house. "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

Detailed results

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

A whistleblower is someone who reports potential wrongdoing that isn't already being addressed.

In general, do whistleblowers:

- **Make Australia a better place**
- **Make Australia a worse place**
- **Don't know / Not sure**

Research shows that a high proportion of Australians who blow the whistle on wrongdoing at work suffer direct damage as a result, such as harassment, suspension or demotion. Some even lose their jobs.

Would you support or oppose stronger legal protections for Australian whistleblowers?

- **Strongly support**
- **Support**
- **Oppose**
- **Strongly oppose**
- **Don't know / Not sure**

Several countries have bodies that oversee and enforce whistleblower protection laws and provide guidance to whistleblowers. Australia has no such body.

Would you support or oppose the introduction of an Australian whistleblower protection authority?

- **Strongly support**
- **Support**
- **Oppose**
- **Strongly oppose**
- **Don't know / Not sure**

Richard Boyle blew the whistle on unethical debt recovery practices at the Australian Taxation Office. Although three independent inquiries confirmed his concerns, Boyle is being prosecuted and faces the prospect of jail-time if convicted.

Do you think:

- **The Australian government should intervene to end the prosecution**
- **The prosecution should go ahead**
- **Don't know / Not sure**

David McBride blew the whistle on alleged war crimes committed by Australian forces in Afghanistan. Although the Brereton Report confirmed his concerns, McBride was convicted for breaching secrecy laws and sentenced to nearly six years in jail.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

"The Australian Government should pardon David McBride."

- **Strongly agree**
- **Agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Strongly disagree**
- **Don't know / Not sure**

In the United States, whistleblowers can be financially rewarded for exposing corporate wrongdoing.

Would you support or oppose new laws that rewarded whistleblowers in Australia who exposed corporate wrongdoing?

- **Strongly support**
- **Support**
- **Oppose**
- **Strongly oppose**
- **Don't know / Not sure**