

METHODOLOGY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Project name	Mood of the Nation (Wave 13)
Project reference	NGR 2203003

Research dates:	18th - 23rd October 2023
Target population:	The target population for the research was Australian residents (all states and territories) aged 18+.
Research methodology:	The research comprised of a 20-minute self-complete online survey with n=1,610 participants sourced from an ISO accredited market research panel.
Weighting approach:	The data was weighted using ABS Census population statistics on age, gender, location and occupation to match the estimated population of all Australian residents aged 18+. The total effective sample size after weighting was approximately 73%, equating to a margin of error of approximately +/-2.9% (at the 95% confidence interval).
Research questions:	A combination of single choice, multiple choice and open-ended (text response) questions were used in the research. All questions and response options were displayed in full during interviews.

This research was conducted in accordance with the Australian Polling Council Quality Mark standards which can be viewed here: <https://www.australianpollingcouncil.com/>

PUBLISHED QUESTIONS

What are the main issues facing Australians that are most important to you right now - the specific cares, concerns, or priorities that you typically talk about with friends or family?

--

Overall, do you think Australia, <insert state>, and your local area are heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?

	1	2
	Heading in the right direction	Heading in the wrong direction
A	Australia	
B	STATE/TERRITORY	
C	Your local area	

In this question we will show you a series of 36 things that some people believe are important for Australia's future.

We know it's a long list, but the results will provide important information to Australia's leaders.

How important are these things to you personally?

	1	2	3	4
	Extremely important	Quite important	Slightly important	Not important at all
1	Reducing personal taxes			
2	Strengthening pensions, welfare payments and support for vulnerable people			
3	Improving representation and conditions for women in the workplace			
4	Promoting diversity, inclusion, and respect for minority groups			
5	Strengthening our economy			
6	Investing more in programs to boost jobs and address unemployment			
7	Supporting small businesses and encouraging entrepreneurship			

8	Addressing Aboriginal disadvantage and promoting reconciliation
9	Acting decisively on climate change and transitioning to renewables
10	Increasing our local manufacturing capacity
11	Strengthening our defence capabilities
12	Strengthening our borders against illegal immigration
13	Increasing migration to fill workplace shortages
14	Expanding and strengthening public services
15	Investing more to ensure quality affordable healthcare for all Australians
16	Investing more to ensure access to affordable University and TAFE education
17	Investing more to improve the quality of primary and high schools in all local communities
18	Investing more in new transport and other infrastructure projects
19	Investing more to improve the aged care sector
20	Improving the preparedness and support for fires, floods and other disasters
21	Reducing government debt
22	Improving pay and conditions for workers
23	Effectively managing the COVID pandemic recovery
24	Improving the treatment of asylum seekers
25	Preserving freedom of speech and rejecting excessive political correctness
26	Keeping interest rates low
27	Reducing cost increases for household bills and other essential expenses
28	Providing opportunities for more people to own their own home
29	Increasing the availability of affordable rental housing
30	Protecting the natural environment, habitats and wildlife
31	Creating favourable conditions and opportunities for people to build personal wealth

32	Strengthening international alliances to counteract aggression from other countries
33	Strengthening our response to violence against women
34	Reducing crime and antisocial behaviour
35	Investing more to increase the availability of affordable childcare services
36	Improving and securing international trade and supply chains

Next please select the 3 of these things that are most important to you personally.

	Select 3
Reducing personal taxes	1
Strengthening pensions, welfare payments and support for vulnerable people	2
Improving representation and conditions for women in the workplace	3
Promoting diversity, inclusion, and respect for minority groups	4
Strengthening our economy	5
Investing more in programs to boost jobs and address unemployment	6
Supporting small businesses and encouraging entrepreneurship	7
Addressing Aboriginal disadvantage and promoting reconciliation	8
Acting decisively on climate change and transitioning to renewables	9
Increasing our local manufacturing capacity	10
Strengthening our defence capabilities	11
Strengthening our borders against illegal immigration	12
Increasing migration to fill workplace shortages	13
Expanding and strengthening public services	14
Investing more to ensure quality affordable healthcare for all Australians	15
Investing more to ensure access to affordable University and TAFE education	16

Investing more to improve the quality of primary and high schools in all local communities	17
Investing more in new transport and other infrastructure projects	18
Investing more to improve the aged care sector	19
Improving the preparedness and support for fires, floods and other disasters	20
Reducing government debt	21
Improving pay and conditions for workers	22
Effectively managing the COVID pandemic recovery	23
Improving the treatment of asylum seekers	24
Preserving freedom of speech and rejecting excessive political correctness	25
Keeping interest rates low	26
Reducing cost increases for household bills and other essential expenses	27
Providing opportunities for more people to own their own home	28
Increasing the availability of affordable rental housing	29
Protecting the natural environment, habitats and wildlife	30
Creating favourable conditions and opportunities for people to build personal wealth	31
Strengthening international alliances to counteract aggression from other countries	32
Strengthening our response to violence against women	33
Reducing crime and antisocial behaviour	34
Investing more to increase the availability of affordable childcare services	35
Improving and securing international trade and supply chains	36

How do you think the Australian economy will change over the following time frames?

		It will get a lot worse	It will get a little worse	It will stay the same	It will get a little better	It will get a lot better
A	In 3 months	1	2	3	4	5
B	In 12 months	1	2	3	4	5
C	In 3 years	1	2	3	4	5

Please select all the emotions that best describe how you have been feeling over the last few weeks?

		Select all that apply
1	Happy	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Grateful	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Calm	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Content	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Inspired	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Confident	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Optimistic	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Loved	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Excited	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Ambitious	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Proud	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Brave	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Energised	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Joyful	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Angry	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Annoyed	<input type="checkbox"/>

17	Anxious	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Envious	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Bored	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Confused	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Pessimistic	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Sad	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Scared	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Stressed	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Lonely	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Depressed	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Exhausted	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Disappointed	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Rushed	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	Overwhelmed	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Included	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	Valued	<input type="checkbox"/>

What are the specific reasons why you have been feeling the following emotions in recent weeks?

[OPEN END]

Overall, how would you rate the performance of the following governments?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	99
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Don't know
A	The STATE/TERRITORY Government						
B	The Federal Government						

Thinking now about cost of living. How concerned, if at all, are you about the following cost of living issues?

	1	2	3	4	5
	Extremely concerned	Quite concerned	Slightly concerned	Not concerned	This cost isn't relevant to me
A	Petrol prices				
B	Gas bills				
C	Grocery prices				
D	Electricity bills				
E	Rent				
F	Mortgage repayments				
G	Insurance premiums				
H	Motorway tolls				
I	Water bills				

Have you experienced any of the following things in the last two months as a response to the rising cost of living?

1	Experienced more arguments or tension at home than usual
2	Felt more anxious or worried than usual
3	Been unable to buy your usual groceries
4	Been unable to pay for education-related expenses
5	Been unable to pay a bill on time
6	Been unable to make a mortgage payment in part or full
7	Been unable to pay rent on time
8	Been unable to pay for needed medical expenses
9	Been unable to meet the minimum payments on your credit card
10	Used less heating or cooling in your home than usual
11	Reduced your usual spending on entertainment (restaurants, cinemas, events etc.)

12	Contacted your bank or a financial counsellor because you were having financial difficulties
13	Bought necessities using buy now pay later service
14	Relied on family or friends to help you financially
15	Received assistance from a charity
16	Cut back or stopped spending on holidays
99	None of the above

How would you describe your current financial situation?

1	Doing well and feeling comfortable
2	Doing OK and making ends meet
3	Having some difficulty but just making ends meet
4	Having a lot of difficulty paying bills and covering basic living expenses

Overall, do you agree or disagree with the following statement about the current behaviour of large companies operating in Australia (i.e. Australia's "corporate sector")?

Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
The are behaving ethically and doing the right thing				

What specific things are large companies in Australia doing that makes you **agree / disagree** that they are behaving ethically and doing the right thing?

[OPEN END]

Overall, do you feel positive or negative about Australia transitioning its electricity generation to renewables like solar, wind and hydro and moving away from coal and other fossil fuels?

Very positive	Somewhat positive	Neither positive nor negative	Somewhat negative	Very negative

In Australia, do you think the transition to renewable energy like solar, wind and hydro is currently moving...

Far too quickly	A bit too quickly	At an appropriate pace	A bit too slowly	Far too slowly

Do you support or oppose the following actions related to energy in Australia?

Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neither support nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose
The Federal Government committing to "Net zero carbon emissions" by 2050 (meaning that carbon pollution released will be balanced by carbon storage or other offsets)				
The Federal Government's target to reduce carbon emissions by 43% by 2030 (compared to 2005 levels)				
Simplifying and streamlining the usual regulatory and community planning approvals process for renewables and electricity transmission projects, in order to have more renewable energy available more quickly				

In principle, do you support or oppose Australia developing new electricity generation projects using the following types of energy?

Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neither support nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose
1	2	3	4	5
Coal fired power plants				
Gas fired power plants				
Offshore wind farms (typically 10-40 kilometers from the coastline)				
Onshore wind farms (typically in regional areas)				
Nuclear power plants				
Solar farms				

The next few questions are about the mains water supply in your region. How often do you take specific actions to conserve water and use it more wisely?

Never
Rarely
Sometimes
Often
Every time I use it

To what extent, if at all, are you concerned about each of the following?

Concerned a lot	Concerned a little	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned
Potential droughts occurring in your region in the next 5 years			
Potential water restrictions being introduced where you live in the next 5 years			
The availability of your drinking water supply in the next 5 years			

. How confident are you that [INSERT STATE] is properly prepared for the impacts of potential droughts in the next 5 years?

Very confident
Somewhat confident
Not very confident
Not at all confident

In principle do you support or oppose the following potential initiatives about water supply and management?

Strongly in favour	Somewhat in favour	Neither in favour nor against	Somewhat against	Strongly against
Treating wastewater so that it can be added to the drinking water supply				
Treating wastewater for uses other than drinking water such as watering gardens, flushing toilets, showering				
Building new desalination plants in (insert state) so seawater can be treated and added to the drinking water supply				
Building new dams in (insert state)				
(PROG NOTE: NSW ONLY) Raising the Warragamba Dam wall to reduce the risks of floods				

Now thinking about the Murray-Darling Basin, which is a large area of south-eastern Australia where water flows through a system of interconnected rivers and lakes. Scientists predict that Australia’s weather is likely be drier over the next few years (as we enter a new El Nino phase) with drought becoming more likely and water probably becoming scarcer. Which of the following do you think should be the main priorities for governments as they manage the Murray-Darling Basin?

Please rank the following from 1 (most important) down to 3 (3rd most important) from your perspective.

Ensuring there is enough water allocated for people in regional towns to use
Ensuring there is enough water allocated for environmental water flow to these rivers and lakes
Ensuring there is enough water allocated for food and fibre production

The Murray-Darling Basin Plan allocates the amount of water that can be used for town water supplies as well as for farming and irrigation, while also ensuring environmental flow to these rivers and lakes.

Some people feel that more water should be returned to the rivers and lakes for environmental reasons. The following are two ways that the water usage in the Basin could be managed. Which do you think should be the main priority for Government?

Investing more in on and off-farm efficiency programs to improve food and fibre production while reducing evaporation and water wastage
Buying back existing water allocations from farmers and irrigators
Don't know

Thinking about former premier Daniel Andrews. All things considered, do you think Daniel Andrews did a good job or a bad job as Premier of Victoria?

1	Very good job
2	Somewhat good job
3	Neither good nor bad job
4	Somewhat bad job
5	Very bad job

What, if anything, was Daniel Andrews’ greatest achievement?

[OPEN END]

S3. What, if anything, was Daniel Andrews’ greatest failure?

[OPEN END]