

METHODOLOGY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Project name	Mood of the Nation (Wave 26)
Project reference	NGR 2203003

Research dates:	2 nd - 13 th July 2026
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=1,975 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 63%, equating to a margin of error of approximately +/-2.8% (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

PROG NOTE: ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

Q. 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?

(Please list these issues in the box below and be as specific as possible about them)

PROG NOTE: OPEN TEXT FIELD. MINIMUM 10 CHARACTERS

Q. Overall, do you think Australia, <insert state>, and your local area are heading in the right direction or the wrong direction? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: RANDOMISE 1-2

	1	2
	Heading in the right direction	Heading in the wrong direction
A	Australia	
B	(PROG NOTE: INSERT STATE/TERRITORY FROM Q)	
C	Your local area	

PROG NOTE: ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

Q. Please select all the emotions that best describe how you have been **feeling** over the last few weeks?
(Select all that apply)

PROG NOTE: MULTIPLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE 1-32

1	Happy		17	Anxious
2	Grateful		18	Envious
3	Calm		19	Bored
4	Content		20	Confused
5	Inspired		21	Pessimistic
6	Confident		22	Sad

7	Optimistic		23	Scared
8	Loved		24	Stressed
9	Excited		25	Lonely
10	Ambitious		26	Depressed
11	Proud		27	Exhausted
12	Brave		28	Disappointed
13	Energised		29	Rushed
14	Joyful		30	Overwhelmed
15	Angry		31	Included
16	Annoyed		32	Valued

Q. How do you think the **Australian economy** will change over the following time frames? (*Select one answer per item*)

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. ROTATE BETWEEN 1-5 AND 5-1

		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

Q. 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? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: RANDOMISE 1-36

	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	Boosting jobs and addressing 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	Addressing the deliberate spread of misinformation and "fake news"			
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 public transport infrastructure			

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	Investing more in road infrastructure
24	Strengthening our response to racial and religious violence and intimidation in Australia
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	Managing risks associated with the use of artificial intelligence (AI)
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	Dealing with international tariffs and supporting affected businesses

PROG NOTE: ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

Q. Overall, how would you rate the performance of the following governments? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. RANDOMISE A-B

	1	2	3	4	5	6	99
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Don't know
A	The (PROG NOTE: INSERT STATE/TERRITORY FROM Q) Government						
B	The Federal Government						

Q. Thinking now about the Federal Budget that was handed down recently on Tuesday 12th May. Based on what you may have seen or heard about it, overall what type of impact do you think it will have on **you and your immediate family**? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,99 AND 5,4,3,2,1,99

1	A very positive impact
2	A somewhat positive impact
3	Neither positive nor negative impact
4	Somewhat negative impact
5	A very negative impact
99	Don't know

Q. In the Federal Budget handed down in May, the Federal Government announced changes to the capital gains tax (CGT) discount on assets (such as investment properties, shares, or small business assets) held for more than a year.

- The current rule – where only 50% of any profit is taxed – will be replaced.
- Under the new system, when an asset is sold, the profit will first be reduced to account for inflation over the time it was held, and the remaining gain will then be taxed, with a minimum tax rate of 30%.
- These changes will apply to gains made from 1 July 2027 onwards, with existing gains remaining under the current rules.

Do you support or oppose this change? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,99 AND 5,4,3,2,1,99

1	Strongly support
2	Somewhat support
3	Neither support nor oppose
4	Somewhat oppose
5	Strongly oppose
99	Don't know

Q. Thinking about these proposed changes to capital gains tax, which of the following comes closest to your view? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,99 AND 3,2,1,99

1	They would make it harder for people to get ahead financially
2	They would make no real difference to peoples' ability to get ahead
3	They would make it easier for people to get ahead financially
99	Don't know

Q. Thinking about social cohesion – by that we mean the way in which different people and groups in society get along and feel connected to one another.

How would you rate the level of social cohesion in Australia at the current time? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE

1	Excellent
2	Very good
3	Good
4	Fair
5	Poor
6	Very Poor

Q. Recent polling has shown an increase in support for One Nation.

Some see this as a sign that more Australians are looking for alternatives to the traditional major parties, while others see it as a sign of growing division or dissatisfaction in the community.

Overall, do you think rising support for One Nation is a good thing or a bad thing for Australia? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,99 AND 5,4,3,2,1,99

1	Very good thing
2	Somewhat good thing
3	Neither good nor bad thing
4	Somewhat bad thing
5	Very bad thing
99	Don't know

Q. Do you personally think that the current level of immigration in Australia is...? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4 AND 3,2,1,4

1	Too high
2	About right
3	Too low
4	Don't know

Q. Do you think a fall in housing property values would be a good thing or a bad thing for each of the following? *(Select one option per row)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. RANDOMISE A-B. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,99 AND 5,4,3,2,1,99

	Very good thing	Somewhat good thing	Neither good nor bad	Somewhat bad thing	Very bad thing	Don't know
	1	2	3	4	5	99
A	For you personally					
B	For Australia					

Q. 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")? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 AND 5,4,3,2,1.

	1	2	3	4	5
	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
A	They are behaving ethically and doing the right thing				

PROG NOTE: ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

Q. Thinking now about Artificial Intelligence (AI). Overall, how positive or negative do you think the impact of AI will be on each of these? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. RANDOMISE A-B. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,99 AND 5,4,3,2,1,99

	Very positive	Somewhat positive	Neither positive nor negative	Somewhat negative	Very negative	Don't know
	1	2	3	4	5	99
A	On society					
B	On you personally					

Q. When you next purchase a car or passenger vehicle, how likely or unlikely are you to consider each of these? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW

	Very likely to consider	Somewhat likely to consider	Neither likely nor unlikely to consider	Somewhat unlikely to consider	Very unlikely to consider
	1	2	3	4	5
A	Petrol or diesel powered vehicle				
B	Non -plugin hybrid vehicle (that is both petrol powered and electric powered)				
C	Plugin hybrid vehicle (PHEV - that can be plugged in to an external power source for charging)				
D	A fully electric vehicle (EV)				

Q. How would you describe your current financial situation? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE

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

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

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. RANDOMISE A-I. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 AND 4,3,2,1,5

	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				

PROG NOTE: ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

Q. Now turning to the cost of living. Which of the following do you think would be the best party to manage the cost of living? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. RANDOMISE 1-4 THEN 98, 99 LAST

1	Liberal and Nationals Coalition
2	The Labor Party
3	Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party
4	The Greens
98	None / someone else
99	Can't say

Q. Thinking about your standard of living overall, how do you think this compares to your parents' at a similar stage of life? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,99 AND 5,4,3,2,1,99

1	You are much better off
2	You are a little better off
3	You are about the same
4	You are a little worse off
5	You are a lot worse off
99	Don't know

Q. 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? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5, AND 5,4,3,2,1

Very positive	Somewhat positive	Neither positive nor negative	Somewhat negative	Very negative
1	2	3	4	5

Q. In Australia, do you think the transition to renewable energy like solar, wind and hydro is currently moving... *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 AND 5,4,3,2,1

Far too quickly	A bit too quickly	At an appropriate pace	A bit too slowly	Far too slowly
1	2	3	4	5

Q. Do you support or oppose the following actions related to energy in Australia? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 & 5,4,3,2,1.

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neither support nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose
	1	2	3	4	5
B	The Federal Government's target to reduce carbon emissions by 62% to 70% by 2035 (compared to 2005 levels)				
C	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)				

Q. How confident are you that each of the following will occur? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 AND 4,3,2,1,5.

	Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
	1	2	3	4	5
B	Australia reducing carbon emissions by 62% to 70% by 2035 (compared to 2005 levels)				
C	Australia achieving "Net zero carbon emissions" by 2050 (meaning that carbon pollution released will be balanced by carbon storage or other offsets)				

Q. In principle, do you support or oppose Australia developing new electricity generation projects using the following types of energy? *(Select one answer per item)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 & 5,4,3,2,1. RANDOMISE A-M

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

H	Rooftop solar
I	Hydro-electric power
J	Waste-to-energy projects (which use household and other waste as a fuel source)
K	Renewable gas (e.g. biomethane generated from farming and agricultural waste)
L	Hydrogen gas created from renewables such as solar and wind
M	Hydrogen gas created from fossil fuels such as coal and gas

Q. Overall, do you feel positive or negative towards US President Donald Trump? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 AND 5,4,3,2,1

1	Very positive
2	Somewhat positive
3	Neither positive nor negative
4	Somewhat negative
5	Very negative

Q. Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom have formed a long-term security partnership known as AUKUS.

The agreement aims to strengthen defence and security cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, including helping Australia acquire nuclear-powered submarines and access advanced defence technologies. Do you support or oppose Australia's involvement in the AUKUS partnership? *(Select one answer)*

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5 AND 5,4,3,2,1

1	Strongly support
2	Somewhat support
3	Neither support nor oppose
4	Somewhat oppose
5	Strongly oppose