

METHODOLOGY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Project name	Mood of the Nation (Wave 26) - Bush Summit 2026
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, including a sample boost in regional areas, 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

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. 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

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 would you rate each of the following things in your local area?

PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,6 AND 6,5,4,3,2,1. SHOW A THEN RANDOMISE B-N

		Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
A	The overall quality of life for people living in your local area	1	2	3	4	5	6
B	Access to childcare places	1	2	3	4	5	6
C	The quality of roads	1	2	3	4	5	6
D	The quality of rail infrastructure for the transport of goods and freight	1	2	3	4	5	6
E	Access relevant educational opportunities	1	2	3	4	5	6
F	Access to appropriate healthcare services / facilities	1	2	3	4	5	6
G	The availability of affordable housing for renting	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	Access to a wide range of employment opportunities	1	2	3	4	5	6
I	The quality of your mobile phone service	1	2	3	4	5	6
J	The quality of your internet service	1	2	3	4	5	6
K	The personal safety of women	1	2	3	4	5	6
L	The number of and visibility of police	1	2	3	4	5	6
M	The protection of the environment	1	2	3	4	5	6
N	The availability of affordable housing for buying	1	2	3	4	5	6

Q. How would you rate each of the following aspects of the healthcare system in your local area?

**PROG NOTE: SINGLE RESPONSE PER ROW. ROTATE BETWEEN 1,2,3,4,5,6 AND 6,5,4,3,2,1.
RANDOMISE A-F**

		Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Don't know
A	Access to GPs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	Quality of local hospitals	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
C	Access to maternity services for pregnant women	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
D	Access to mental health services	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E	Access to specialist doctors	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
F	Ambulance services	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

PROG NOTE: ASK IF LIVE IN INNER/MIDDLE/OUTER SUBURBS OF STATE CAPITAL CITY

Q. How likely would you be to consider moving to live in a regional or rural area in the next 2 and 10 years? *(Select one answer per item)*

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

		Definitely would	Probably would	May or may not	Probably would not	Definitely would not
A	In 2 years	1	2	3	4	5
B	In 10 years	1	2	3	4	5

PROG NOTE: ASK IF THEY DO NOT LIVE IN INNER/MIDDLE/OUTER SUBURBS OF STATE CAPITAL CITY

Q. How likely would you be to consider moving to live in a state capital city in the next 2 and 10 years? *(Select one answer per item)*

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

		Definitely would	Probably would	May or may not	Probably would not	Definitely would not
A	In 2 years	1	2	3	4	5
B	In 10 years	1	2	3	4	5

PROG NOTE: ASK IF MOVED TO REGIONAL/RURAL AREA IN LAST 5 YEARS

Q. What were the main reasons why you decided to move to a regional or rural area in recent years? *(Please write a response in the box below, giving as much detail as possible).*

PROG NOTE: OPEN TEXT FIELD
