

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

### Q1 What should be the most important issues in the election? (Choose up to three)

Taxation	19.95%
Immigration	8.53%
Health	20.79%
Defence	35.94%
Employment and jobs	18.27%
Wages growth	10.82%
Government spending and deficits	30.29%
Housing supply and affordability	21.39%
Education	12.98%
Aged care	20.43%
Social security	2.76%
Climate change and the environment	42.43%
Domestic violence	1.92%
First Nations rights	1.44%
Mental health	2.04%
Cost of living	15.26%
Disability services	1.32%
Misinformation and integrity	14.06%
Establish a Federal Integrity Commission	28.00%
Other (add below)	11.90%

Religious discrimination and the relentless cancel culture rot that is destroying all decency and respect for the silent majority
Civil liberties removed during covid shutdowns
Media control and transparency. Cyber and national Security issues Transparency of political party donations especially the independents
Federal ICAC
Productivity
Inflation
Freedom to choose whether I have vaccine or not
Eliminating obsolescent expenditure programs. No more growth of Canberra swamp.
Actively search the Globe for skilled workers needed in Australia and bring them in Free ASAP Give then working vis and then check their credentials . Be wary of our Bureaucrats in Immigration and Barrier Control do not have power to block these people. If there are any citizens from Ukraine, give them FAST RACK TO GET HERE AND SETTLED in to Australia. If necessary set up a buddy system with existing Ukrainians living in Australia to assist.
Personal freedom, Bodily autonomy, Manipulation and coercion to take an experimental drug.
The coming Energy Crisis caused by the over use of renewables leading to blackouts.
National Longevity Strategy
Foreign Aid
health education aged care climate change add dental care
it would be interesting to know the % of housing sales are being made to non Australian residents. both parties steer clear of this one
National governance

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

Reliable power supply
create productivity
Stabilised economy
The Darwin Harbour debacle must be fixed. We must not move the Australian embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. How Naive! Submarines are useless, totally vulnerable dinosaurs. They'd be a total waste.
No long term vision
The economy
No.1 Mending the relationship with our major trading partner. Stop trying to be the de facto "World cop" from a position of no power.
The total lack of future planning
Without the problems in the economy first addressed we won't be able to address every other area. Vision and ensuring a fairer society is vital.
Company Taxation to increase, More tax on in ground wealth sent over seas
The effect of nanoparticles to limit the ability of organisms to adjust to inevitable climate change.
Violence to women and children
Human Rights Act Revised Coercive control bill passed Sexual discrimination to be included in the Human rights and fair work act
National Energy Policy, including but not limited to renewables.
Increasing productivity
If a major politically party can get the highlighted abovementioned policy settings right then everything else will look after itself
Problem is there are more than 3
Respect, not only for women, but for those of a different faith or skin colour, migrants and refugees.
The economy stupid!
self sufficiency - more manufacturing here and fewer imports. Spending on infrastructure.
Reduce red tape/bureaucracy - EVERYWHERE (I am a financial planner)
Reduce red-tape
Broadening Australian jobs into productive industries to lessen reliance on overseas manufacture. Tax incentives could be offered.
It's all very well to identify the most important issues but the real question is the ruling parties will or ability to do anything about it.
Debt reduction across households and government
Cost of living encompasses both wages growth and employment and jobs
global supply chains, trade
Leadership, stability, economic responsibility, Track record, trust
2. A Tsunami of Long Covid and Chronic Fatigue which is going to hit Australia Comment: Already we have 250'000 Australians living with debilitating Chronic Fatigue. Latest estimates predict that there could be another 380'000 people ending up with Long Covid which is similar to Chronic Fatigue. The cost to the economy of so many people being disabled is massive. What we need is substantial funding for research into treatment and cure as currently we got no treatment and no cure.
My 4th and 5th choices would be aged care and an integrity commission
Re-establishing a working relationship with China - our major trading partner now and the world's major trading nation in the future.
None of the above

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

Long term planning. For all of the above, none of this short term crap because there is an election.
All of the above. A lot are interrelated. Taxation, spending are two sides of the same coin.
Taxation reform to remove negative taxes such as payroll tax & stamp duty & simply tax act
All of Australian government (Fed, State & Local) efficiency commission to enhance ROI for taxpayers and reducing waste
dams
The economy and keeping inflation under control.
The Liberal party needs to separate itself from the evangelical churches. In WA the Liberal party is controlled by the Evangelicals (eg: Christian Porter's seat Liberal candidate). It will take at least 5 years to rest control back at a minimum.
The manifest lack of competence and integrity in the entire Federal Cabinet underlies every issue above. By far the worst Federal Government in my 74 years of life. Even worse than McMahon and Rudd.
Resistance to the madness of Australia's climate change policies which will in practice, not affect global emissions China 30% and increasing.
Closing the wealth GAP
Keeping state borders open. Vaccine mandates Censorship Digital currency Why did a country like Niger have less Covid deaths than Australia ? They have 5% vaccination
Too much mud slinging & not enough policy debate
decentralisation
Climate Change
GDP per capita and income distribution continuing to become more inequitable
Value for money in government expenditure
Economy Defence
Economy
I want to tick more than 3 as so many areas have been neglected/avoided for too long!
Cut spending rather than increase taxes however spend more on defence and vocational training.
the economy which covers Aged care, education, housing, government spending, wages growth
Strong economic management
Productivity improvement Resilience in just in case scenario
Diplomacy
and ALL THE OTHERS !
wealth inequality
China
Misinformation and integrity., Education, Mental health.
electoral donations = corrupt/skewed decisions
people on new start should have their payments increased to above the poverty line
Neutral and Balanced foreign policy
Fine tuning of the Negative gearing rules. Fine tuning of the Franking credits allowances.
Country's development Start / Bring industry Create jobs

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

Boorders Control Control of unions keeping industry in Australia .
Optimising the revenue versus expenditure balance
Reskilling of retrenched workers or those affected by technological change.
Structural reform of taxation system and economy, increasing international competitiveness, investment in industries we have natural advantage in eg greenpower (solar, batteries etc), less reliance on China
There are more than 3 critical issues including defence, aged care, education, health, immigration, government deficits. All these areas need urgent attention but there is little chance with either of the major parties.
Individual rights and freedoms
Most of the issues above are important to our future. however I dont see any party capable of dealing with them effectively other than sound bites and royal commission that then goes nowhere. I addition the standard of our politicians is very low so making serious inroads into our problems highly unlikely until there is a crash of some sort. We are no longer a united nation but groups of special interests, be they political, states, gender, green or conservative and religious to mention a few.
refine mined product in Australia to the finished product
Aged care
Vision and plan for Australia
Responsible governance - acting on reports and commissions (Royal etc) and not ignoring or postponing.
Tackling Inflation at once ,(by raising interest rates NOW at least 0.75 percent) is the highest priority.
economy
Reduce the cost of Centrelink, NDIS, Medicare, and Aboriginal Affairs
Fuel Security, both major parties have buried this issue as, in my opinion, the solutions are difficult for Nats, and the coal miners in Qld
Infrastructure Investment

### Q2 How do you feel about the quality of political debate? (on a scale of 1-10, where 1 is terrible and 10 is excellent)

1	26.60%
2	18.19%
3	21.58%
4	11.92%
5	15.31%
6	2.89%
7	1.88%
8	1.51%
9	0.13%
10	0.00%

Short-sighted debate about more spending of taxpayers money, when the total budget deficit approaches \$1 trillion. Something has to give and it most likely will be higher taxes down the road.
Labor is not smart enough especially their leader. The so- called Independents are just in it for the money and climate change and the Coalition is trying to please everyone when that's impossible.
Its a despicable bruha. Not professional standard
lack of detail from both is concerning.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Current political debate is small, media & party controlled & antagonistic. It seems only party leaders are able to speak on matters. Where are the local electoral led debates by current & political candidate?
what quality? they all just rubbish each other.
tired of all parties telling lies
Pretty good. I think the ABC has been a little less biased this time.
we need to be realistic about our defence strategy in this region-or we may not have a future to worry about!!
Media bias and lies from all involved from coverage to various running candidates
Sick of spin lies and false interpretation from Labor
slander and back biting are not debates about policy & ideas on how to unite and move this country forward for all citizens
Hopefully the quality of debate will improve as we move nearer to election day.
No party will deal honestly with the serious challenges facing Australia.
Seems to be all about absolute hatred of the Government and all of its members by the Labour trash.
Too much time spent opposing each other rather than advocating for the people
No focus on policy, focus is on personality and on what the other side is not doing right.
Don't need to hear negative comments just positive policies that work
Albanese is uninspiring and underprepared.
Failure to analyse government removal of our civil liberties during covid.
The score matches the political intelligence of most of the electors.
Not much actual debate
sick of political parties behaving like school boys, throwing personal insults at each other, instead of coming up with real policies
The bias in reporting across mainstream media, and even the ABC, favouring the LNP, is beyond incredible and frankly disturbing. Murdoch media is making no attempt to even appear balanced, much less actually report facts. Their incorrect pie chart methods, as an undeniable example, are beyond belief.
Always feel that we never really get the honest truth. Sometimes I want the two main parties to work together on big issues like climate change and the environment.
There is no real political debate because there is no substance. Debate has been reduced to one liners: can someone tell me what an ENERGY SUPERPOWER IS and how it would create so many jobs. What information the politicians distribute is shallow, confusing and generally not credible on both sides. They appear to be trying to appeal to all of the people all of the time.
too many handouts and not enough policy.
The more Albo says the more he demonstrates he is not the one to vote for
Predictable electioneering in style, lacking expanded exposition on policies and plans that are supposedly of substance.
Appalling - no vision for the future from either party just more of the same. Morrison has no credibility at all yet the Libs stick with him blindly thinking he will get them another term - thats all they think about - born to rule !!! Dear Albo is a nice enough guy but lacks charisma yet there are others in the party that have this - Jason Clare et al.
media need to report the debates and not do commentaries on the debate
There is considerable dislike between the people who vote conservative and those who vote Labor
It is pathetic
Will vote independent this time
Opportunistic and insufficient concrete information about critical issues
The federal govt has shamefully allowed their ABC to spend our taxes on their whims.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

LOUSY. Make them get down to the key issues.
A race to the bottom with cheap shots replacing policy
This is not necessarily the fault of the leaders, as it is of the media; in particular News Corp media. Labour put forward comprehensive policies at the last election and was pilloried on them. ScoMo won on the basis of no policies whatsoever (go on, name a policy on which he stood... A POLICY not a slogan!). Voters get what the vote for.
Spin for sure, as always.
Debate is highly politicised by the Liberals who think more or the same is OK.
Too much point scoring and personality bashing, not enough explanation of important longer term strategies and programs
When did debate on transgender issues or LGBT etc become so important to our economy????
what debate, both leaders stand for nothing and have no policies
no policies & no plan- on the run only
Election cafe cartoon sums it up. I can't believe I have to pick one of them...
Both parties do not want to get into anything controversial. In Australia today you are howled down if you mention anything controversial like we can make a difference to man made aspects of climate change, the NDIS. Everyone wants more handouts but they don't want to give anything up. The large amount of money you can have and still receive a part pension. All the added extras you get having a pension. ALL Australians are truly lucky people, yet look the at whinging and whining that is all about..
Appalling. No vision, constantly playing the 'person' and not the policy, selfish, greedy politicians who only want power. The people are forgotten
Too much focus on 'buying votes' with LNP & ALP both making numerous promises. Too little focus on policies and values
Morrison is negative and too prone to spinning issues, making him unbelievable. Albanese is too stuckatoo and seems uncertain at times.
Totally inane and self serving.
Where is the vision and the fight back against wokeness and the indoctrination of our children.
Morrison is a great salesman but no depth & poor leadership role model; he & his team display contempt for the average voter. Albanese needs to dig deeper to show the voters what leadership should look like.
Major parties are hopeless....Mainstream media is captured....thank goodness for Independents talking about their communities real concerns
I have heard little to inspire; the glaring absence of tackling the serious issues concerns me as to how either party will behave when the outcome is known. This is exacerbated by the uncertainty of the allegiances of independents and minor parties
Media has priorities wrong
Too much backbiting from Labor Both parties Should just stick to their policies
They will not answer the simplest of questions directly when asked. They always revert to blaming each other not resolving issues. They never act in the best interest of all Australians. There is a huge wastage of taxpayers money and no accountability for their spending. Every taxpayer in Australia is accountable every year when lodging a tax return.
The media trivialises so many important issues, with the support of the major political parties.
We need leadership and courage
What debate? It's just a constant blame-game with neither side demonstrating a vision for the future
Both parties problem - Just putting policies on paper with no further action plans.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Politicians should not talk about the opposition's policies or historical failings unless asked to. They stick to their own plans, and let the electorate make its own judgements.
Morrison is average although he has done well through the pandemic and is a better economic manager than Labor..Albanese and labor have no policy, their costings are ludicrous or non existing and they are too dangerous to have in government and running the country at this time.
We are bereft of leaders
Scomo's self promotion ability was underrated last time and is now again
All the same old waffle no vision.
There's little medium to long term vision or policy of substance. Spending promises lack credibility and accountability post election.
Complete lack of any strategy
There is no debate, just criticism (mostly unfounded) of the current government. Policy comes second best.
The driving ambition of political parties is to stay in government (ie keep their jobs). Therefore none are willing to make the critical (but unpopular ie taxation) reforms needed for Australia to prosper.
The big issues confronting Australia such as the increasing gap between rich and poor, lack of productivity increases, lack of any policies to transition from coal etc etc shows a lack of vision and leadership.
Trivial and parochial and uninformed
I am sick of the negativity and criticism of other political parties/individuals. Tell us your policies and how you will pay for them. Clive Palmer has never had a valid policy.
We need an election prospectus, outlining initiatives, estimated costs and commitment to timing all in one document rather than piecemeal dissemination of promises throughout the campaign
politicians are too afraid to say what they think for fear of being politically incorrect.
Always BS from our politicians who are only interested in themselves.
Good from the government, dragged down by no show, no answers Albanese , the Greens , independents
Need to see plan for 5, 10, 15, 20 years where the country heading? what must be done on all sectors?Debates are not targeted on this important points.
Its mostly lies and mudslinging. No sensible debate, not even published plans for the future. I wouldn't pay them in washers!
Seem only interested in getting into office, not what they need to do for our better lives.
no one is willing to 'debate 'in the true sense of the word. compromise is always needed in any major policy area, impossible without thoughtful debate.
Spend spend spend no save!
The concentration on personalities and not on issues and policy is so disheartening. The standard of journalism contributors to this. Journalists employed to follow politics should stay off social media with their awful standard of debate! The professionalism of some aspiring politicians is gob smackingly awful!
Both same
Parties solely relying on character attacks and pandering to fossil fuel lobby
All are too busy throwing muck.
It's a circus, and the media is as bad as the politicians for promoting it.
Australia is asleep at the wheel
Pettiness from politicians, too short an horizon and lack of real issues discussed that affects this country
Labour's side of the debate is poorly lacking in coherent detail, this makes it very difficult to get a vibrant and realistic debate going.
Often only jibes at their opposition
Labor seems to be the most guilty with a committed strategy of hurling abuse at Morrison after issues that a false or dubious

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Can't stand Morrison lying Can't stand Albo lack of projection
they are all walking on egg shells
Media and their inbuilt corporate and individual journalist biases are to blame here.
Promises, Promises, Promises. Delivery post-election - not much.
None of the major and important issues are able to be discussed let alone debated, e.g. the use of nuclear energy, structural improvements to increase productivity and structural improvements to the taxation system
There should be more of a focus on debating actual policy as opposed to personal politiking. The Labor party is intent on this style of politics to keep Morrison on the defensive, because when he is on the attack, he exposes their weaknesses and lack of knowledge in policy areas.
Hard to please everyone we should all have to give & take.
There is no debate, except for minor parties & independent's clamouring over side issues that may suit them, but not for the greater good for all, adding to the cost of the overall economy.
We haven't got someone like a Keating. Hawke or Whitlam as leader of labor party and that is reducing the chances of labor winning
Debate is managed by the media who concentrate on Gotcha moments, not serious policy concerns, eg climate action, deterioration in our environment, housing for all, not just the well-off. etc etc
There isn't any rigour Journalists seem to be woefully underprepared to ask truly probing questions because there seems to be an imperative to ask brief questions and to receive even briefer answers
Just like question time in the parliament: unintelligent, immature, self serving egotistical dribble.
No major party dare to be different.
Neither party has a policy
The Government is too focused on the ALP.....and the ALP is offering nothing
Focused negative comments and special interests which have no value for greater good. Monkey with dart board would be cheaper.
Some issues 10 and some issues 1
Vacuous, pointless adversarial point-scoring
Scott Morrison amazes how he can spin a scare campaign from his own parties created policy of the "Safe Guard Mechanism" is now a Labor carbon tax, despite the business council of Australia supporting it.
No difference between Labor or Liberal
The polarisation in the media is a contributor to the poor quality of the political debate along with the single interest so called "independents".
# word slogans and scare campaigns. No real policy frameworks are discussed.
the major parties are pandering to the lowest common denominator.
There is no debate. It is one side distorting the facts to make the other side appear bad.
However, the work ethic of some is huge. Australia is a big place and travel is essential and exhaustive. The commitment to reaching out to everyone is impressive.
Action required - stop debating
By Labor taking a small target approach you have no policy framework or hard data from which to make a comparison. We should be provided with the policies and costings of all budgetary items from which to decide and measure performance.
Very few intelligent quips. Just slander and lies. What exactly is the Labor Party going to do except crucify Scot Morrison with the help of the so called media.
Both sides are as bad as each other, but the LNP seem to blame anyone but themselves for any issue that comes up. Been in Government a long time now, need to grow up and take responsibility.



## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

The quality is not helped by journalists constantly asking politicians to "guarantee" they will never do "x" or "y", which takes nuance out of debate and boils everything down to talking points with no boldness in policy development.
In each case, there mouth is moving, with nothing "important" being heard.
I think the quality of political debate is also a reflection of the low quality of media in Australia, though, as a long-term reader of both the UK and Australian press, I think this is a problem with the anglophone media generally.
There is a reluctance by both major parties to articulate long term nation building policies and address a constructive way to deal with the rising deficit.
No discussion about long term reforms
Pathetic. We need a leader with balls to make rational changes to taxation & housing affordability. It does not make sense that us" older" citizens keep on getting richer when owning real estate when our kids cannot afford to even enter the market. It's our kids & younger worker that need to be given a chance. It is there turn!
2 there is increasingly a alck of illumination of the complexity of the problem(s) and then open debate as best risk mitigation and solution possibilities are sculpted. Instant answers and balck and white views are dangerous given the NEED for effort in planning and executing sensible change.
There is too much of Grandstanding, sound bites and polarisation rather than true policies
sub-par and predictable
It is a game of infantile point scoring around personalities ,egged on by a social media/media that revels in vitriol and cheap publicity.
I don't believe anything the Left says as they will say 'whatever it takes' and their language is always too over dramatised. They prefer to address trendy issues rather than security and economics.
We keep hearing about "plans" but we are not being told what the plans are.
If one would listen to all the campaigning and debating for 6 weeks one would nearly go insane. Most voters including me turn off and make up our minds without listening to all the dirt they throw at each other.
Appalling. Just like last time. And the time before.
Only intelligent people can partake in a debate, such performance is currently lacking because the opposing parties do not see merit in the other sides contribution ,therefore good points that would be advantageous to the country are overlooked to our country`s detriment.
Can it be called a debate? More like the antics of friends who have fallen out
Jump around Scotty, the one-man show.
Not enough of a narrative on a holistic national policy direction and well thought out policies to take us there over a defined time frame, i.e. a coordinated strategy to achieve spelt out goals over time.
Nothing much has changed since last Federal election.
Too personal and not enough focus on the important issues Scare campaigns by either side add no value whatsoever to the voter
The history of issues is rarely given. Readers need to access Al Jazerra , Moscow Times and the BBC to have a greater understanding of the isses
Too many lies and mis information
There isn't any substantive political debate; simply blame and counter-claim, spin and obfuscation, short-term promises instead of sustainable policies. It cannot get worse than this (I hope!).
Scarcely an honest word comes out of Morrison's mouth.
Both major parties lacking any vision for the future of Australia
Always Rhetoric
All about attacking others, talk more about the other party than their own, especially Scomo. Where are the visions and ways to achieve them?

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Policies please; talk about the positive and drop the talk about the negative; stop the personality attacks
Sound bites, appeals to the lowest common denominator, inattentive electorate that has no clue on civics..
The Australia media ranks 0 out of 10, both for quality and for impartiality (basically all Fox News)
It is just negativity all the time, no one providing a vision for the future, and 2 uninspiring leaders of the 2 major parties.
They are only about point scoring. I want to hear sensible debate about future policy directions.
Given that both main parties just insult each other it's a waste of time
Everything is negative. Where are the policies that the new government will implement? Why should I vote for either party.
Continuing personal attacks (eg who is zed) are childish and a complete turn off
There has been little debate that is not mud slinging
Bordering on pathetic
Unfortunately our political system rewards mediocrity. Are there any competent serving ministers or shadows who have really worked for a living rather than being a party or union hack?
No substance or commitment - all spin and manipulation of selected information for short term gain - mainly personal not the long term benefit of the whole ie public good.
The political debate is being simplified to a point where it is has little credibility. There is not enough critical analysis or fact checking of political spin. It also demonstrates that the average Australian has little understanding of how Government obtain their funding. A poor reflection on our education system.
Why do people keep believing them (all parties)
What quality? What debate? It's infantile.
I didn't like Shorten, didn't vote for Shorten, but he had the guts to say "vote for me, this is what you'll get". Now all we get same bullshit and scare tactics
-1 on the part of the Morrison Government, perhaps 3 or 4 on the part of the Opposition parties.
We need truth in elections and politics
Today's politician seem more focused on their own agendas instead of the Country. There is no long term vision (30 years+), just to next election. They can never answer a question without doing a drawn blab about everything else bar the actual question.
Same, same... no major initiatives
Not helped by the media.
Hard to debate when one side as no policy
Both Sides Use Sound Bytes and Marketing Grabs. Media Are to Blame ofr a lack of integrity in reporting, Journalists are too intereted in their Social Media Popularity as a Job KPI
They waffle on and say nothing meaningful
There is too much rhetoric from labour & not enough factual information
I lay my score (3) firmly at the feet of the media in this country. The ridiculous "how much is a loaf of bread" questions, and nothing about structural issues, forward planning, and economic and social reform. I am beyond exasperated, and increasingly exhausted by the quality of the questions and commentary.
Politicians play the man, not the ball and often behave worse than children in a primary school playground.
It is a popularity contest
Very negative. I want to know what they are going to do not what the others did wrong sometimes years ago
Each side is trying to avoid saying anything that will hurt them even if it needs saying. There is little difference and the negative campaigns are for the target niche.
MSM (sadly including the ABC these days) is doing a poor job of covering politics. Little focus on policy, too much focus on presidential style leadership.
Appalling is the best that I can come up with.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

The low quality of political debate is worsened by news media bias and concentration on trivia.
CAn you go lower than 1?
Choose between a lying bully and a weak underachiever
ScoMo is excellent - Albo is pathetic and Penny Wong and Kristina Kennealy the are condescending, aggressive and don't answer the question. They just keep on with their "spin".
What debate? Populist blah blah is not a debate.
No leaders ongoing the pack
We have a Prime Minister who just makes up things as he goes along and has no honesty and and Opposition Leader who does not possess the necessary skills to expose him
Tired of one party attacking the other. Want to hear more about policy and vision for the future.
Too much political point scoring rather than constructive debate
Most is biased, labour has had over its share of time at the expense of all other parties, and too many commentators show their own personal preference
Hard to trust to most of the politicians
Labor is hiding what it will do
About standard
There seems no debate, on statements, some not even facts.
Its the media stupid! Don't blame the politicians for the purile level of debate.
A policy vacuum
There has been no debate re the serious issues of Taxation reform, budget deficits, real productivity growth.
City Hall meetings live Half truths
Too frightened to tell the truth because every word is analysed to see who can be offended.
The debate does not seem real, when it is essentially insubstantial. Designed only for the daily news cycle.
Far too interested in gotcha questions and not addressing the main issues identified in 1
Journalist remain the most divisive part of political debabe
No details from either side on "proposed" policies
Better attempts from the ALP by far but Scomos bluster (read deception at best) lowers the tone all too often
ScoMo politicises everything and talks lot of rubbish a lot of the time. Albanese does not have any charisma or forward thinking policies.
There doesn't seem to be any quality debate on the substantive issues.
The media does not hold the government to account, allowing it to waffle unchecked
B graders or worse
Costly advertising pre campaign start date by government saying how great they are. We need to fix electioneering costs as done in some other countries
too much sniping
Almost no debate more about he said she said. And as for for all of Craig Kelly's and Clive Palmer's lies and propaganda, they should be banned from perpetuating such BS.
Media socialists reporting ABC left wing
There is no real debate about policies or a "Vision for Australia"
Waste of time

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Public slanging of the opposing party is very unedifying. More focus on policy discussion and vision for the future is needed.
Political debate basically does not exist debates serve as a platform to slag ones specific opponent and the oppositions policies rather than detailing their own attributes
Neither the political entities nor the media perform well.
Ordinary
At no point in the last 9 years have I seen a politician from either major party provide a meaningful - or indeed even coherent - discussion of an actual policy. The decade before that occasionally showed bursts of actual policy-making, but most were quickly abandoned as soon as they proved controversial. Without a willingness to endure appropriate risk for a good governance outcome, there cannot be high quality government. Without high quality government, there cannot be a high quality political debate, because all sides are arguing over trivia, rather than substance.
Unfortunately the political debate is being staged in the media which has little tolerance for any explanation or examination that takes longer than 30 seconds.
there is none ...as said in intro the major parties are too frightened to discuss useful future policy
Plenty of what they will do, not much how.
There has been NO real political debate to date.
Not worth listening too Also very poorly reported & interpreted
No attempt to actually be factual about what they plan to do. If like Morrison last time most of his "promises" bit the dust anyway. It's all about power and control rather than policy for the good of the nation.
Very poor debate on vital issues . In many cases ,not defining issues.
It would be an improvement if candidates had to pass an intelligence test before being nominated
I only selected 3 because I fear it could get worse.
There is very little that qualifies as debate, just petty point scoring and tribalism
Political debate is a useless tool. We need to look at voting numbers and see what each MP supports
Both sides just talk about how bad the other side is and do not answer in detail how they would action the plans they have to go forward.
no facts only spin
It is such a pity that Albanese was born with his two feet stuck in his mouth - he has made so many blatant gaffs I've lost count. Then again the rabble hiding behind him aren't any better. Morrison at least knows the facts and is on top of his game.
Do not feel the debates are conducted by intelligent adults who are genuinely concerned about our security,needs, and our future.
Media still focusing on one liners
There is no space for telling lies in election campaigns.
current PM will say anything to promote himself
I don't watch much political debate, in most cases, the debate is not closely related to the subject. Each side will go off on a tangent in the hope of scoring points.
Fairly pathetic by all sides
Too much criticism of each other and NO real plans to move forward. Our Politicians have NOT heard of the word VISION
Bashing Personalities and debating fads does not even make a pretense of presenting a strategy.
both parties are out of step with voters in my view. Coalition historically poor at marketing the policy changes made and the way forward.
No words can describe

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

Morrison can only make personal attacks
Frustratingly stage managed, superficial and shallow.
LNP 9 & Labor/Greens 1
It is time for Government heavy rather than Government lite as is current. The Feds have a major place in developing longer term growth in Austrlia.
Total failure to address the most serious issues in a truthful, factual and realistic way - all circus aimed at popularity over substance
Same old delivery but by different actors!
too skewed to 'single issues' no leadership or big picture agendas
too much rubbish about climate change. Its a myth! Build more coal fired power stations
Shocking and getting worse fed by a very underwhelming media (Firstlinks aside)
Its all short-termism and "gotcha" moments - treating the electorate like idiots
Scott Morrison was a good minister when being tough would do. He is a poor (perhaps bad is more appropriate) prime minister. His focus is always trying to please the US and ignores the long term benefits of Australia. Attacking China on trade only weakens Australia. War with China is the worst joke I have heard for a long time. Anthony is an unknown. The debate lacks what need to done for the future of Australia. Where they mention something needs to be done, there is no "How" to do.
No one is addressing the urgent problems that confront Australia
No real debate
Both the politicians and the media lack the intellectual capacity to get beyond petty point scoring and present a considered range of views on where Australia needs to position itself in these times.
Too many questions seeking a "gotcha moment" rather than an invitation to explain policy in a coherent form. rg Asking what is unemployment rate versus what a party is going to do to create employment opportunities - too many vague visions (or no vision at all).
No real substance on actual issues affecting voters
Do these politicians live in the real world ?
Babble & scare campaigns
More about point scoring than substance. Labor scared by previous election experience has gone in with a small target approach so a lack of policy substance
Misrepresentation of the facts is my biggest issue.
Weak
The political debate is so partisan and wrong as to be useless.
personal attacks. no focus or long form interviews as is done in UK, Fr, US. too much focus on leader, not enough on cabinet
Major parties are too alike and refuse to consider the issues that really matter
No coherent strategy for long term prosperity
Who wants to listen to them for six weeks? One would nearly go insane. So much rubbish they are talking. It is all talk. What we need is action on so many fronts.
Same again - nitpicking "gotcha" moments and outright lies spread principally by the opposition but also by the government and independents.
There is no plan just fixing existing problems
What quality? It doesn't exist!
zero leadership with big vision from either morrison or albanese.
Unfortunately telling lies is now a large part of what we get from politicians.
Very personalised, need to focus more on policy detail especially ALP

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Not enough civil debate of key issues and most favourable policies to address them.
The debate is about being elected/re-elected and not leading Australia into the future.
No significant issues discussed
All politicians simply say what they need to be elected
Inability to acknowledge the right of an opponent to have different views is a shortcoming of "the left"
The policy platform of both major parties is virtually devoid of anything meaningful but that doesn't surprise me given that most of us Australians to cast our votes these days based on what is financially the best for us personally not what is good for the country.
Just awful...worst since the 1950's.
Debate with Morrison? In your dreams. He is a mud slinger. Takes two to debate.
- there is a depressing level/standard of MSM journalism which is insulting to thinking voters! As Seinfeld said, 'if you accept tabloid news, you deserve to be lied to'.
Libs showing that interest rates are higher under labor than under liberals doesn't tell you much. How do the interest rates in Australia compare to international interest rates under each party? ie world factors can influence interest rates which neither party can control, whereas comparing Aust interest rates to other countries tend to remove international factors so you can focus on what the Australian government can control
Short term arguments with a very narrow focus. They have lost the point of true policy objectives.
Too scripted; skating across the top of issues; no free to air debates despite being too leader focused; too dishonest - we really need 'truth in advertising' to apply to politicians; too much blatant vote buying by LNP
On the whole debates are shallow and irrelevant.
I have been voting in Federal elections for 50 years. The modern debate is facile and useless. This government is the worst I have seen.
People have short memories recalling the fiscal destruction created by successive labor governments
crap
It reflects the public's inability to think deeply about the issues and the media's propensity for biased, shallow and frivolous analysis.
The political debate is substantially focused on vote-buying and appears bereft of significant long term policy initiatives.
Small target approach - lack of meaningful policies
Sick of smiling polities in hi-vis outfits
As a member of the younger generation who will be voting in my first election, I am sick of parties who lack a definitive plan for the future of our country. I want a day where parties focus on policies for decades to come, not just to win this election. Political short-sightedness is everywhere in the current government re. climate change, and we seem to have lost the will to do what is right for the country re. taxation, housing and again climate change.
Neither of the parties want to debate issues. They dish out slogans and promises without any real substance.
There's a lack of proper national conversation on the issues that matter. Instead our leaders try to find slogans that resonate.

### Q3 Which aspect of campaigning and elections do you most dislike? (Choose up to two)

Too much focus on gaffes and 'gotcha'	33.09%
Scare tactics about the policies of other parties	39.23%
Small targets and refusing to adopt controversial policies	28.76%
Lies and deceit generally	45.49%
Ability to buy influence and votes through advertising	11.43%
Personality attacks	17.57%

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

Media bias	33.57%
Nothing, it's all the 'cut and thrust' of a democracy	1.20%
Other (add below)	9.03%

two is insufficient
Absolutely hate things like mediscare type tactics and the one sided reporting of the ABC
Media reporting of proven unreliable polls
The ABC is so bias against the Government of the day it is impossible to watch.
There should be a rule you can only your policy!! Nothing about people.
Reliance on proven unreliable polls and the dumbing down of debate.
Pork barrelling
I can choose my own health decisions
Emphasis on dubious polls
All of the above - I can't choose.
Not standing up to woke ideology .
Not enough attention to important strategies and programs
pork barreling
I could choose all of them
Let's hear the policies.
Adding nonsense to reasonable criticisms: eg The Greens complain the one third of public companies pay no tax. They don't seem to understand that for that group of companies in that year, there are no profits to tax.
support new industry
All political advertising should be governed by the same rules as general advertising. Also detest the factory, shop and mall tours. I find it demeaning to our democracy.
Too much walking on eggshells.
But I do think in an election where the economy is at the forefront Albanese should have known the current unemployment rate and interest rate to have any credibility in managing the economy.
Labor not announcing their policies
lack of pursuit of any 'truth'
All so depressing!
Concentrating on patch up policies instead of prevention - health, rights, outsourcing, short termism.
Too much posting every couple of hours on social media - posting nothing of real importance
Also, media bias especially from the ABC is disgusting.
There are 2 distinct issues this ? Doesn't allow for - party issues and media issues
Stunts
ABC labor/Green bias
Not focused on what is important. Refer to Q1.
The carve up of Federal rural seats where our town is over a thousand kilometers from our representative with little hope of ever seeing him/her. We are only 90 kilometers from the city of Perth.
Mediocre candidates with limited experience.
All of the above.
Media is getting dumber and more biased - they should be there to raise standards, not lower them.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Much of the poor quality of debates and analysis and focus on personalities and negativity and lack of policy can be sheeted home to the media which thrives on gotchas and division rather than analysis. The quality of Journalism is rather pathetic and this applies not only to tabloids and shock jocks but the financial press. The lack of authentic media and lack of media diversification has led to this problem
The fact is that, in effect, minority governments dependent on a feral Senate that has minority parties dictating what can and cannot be legislated makes bold decisions impossible (even if career politicians wanted to).
All the above apply in varying degrees
1. Parachuting a candidate into an electorate. Comment: How can somebody who does not live in the electorate represent the constituents of an electorate? There should be a rule that for somebody to be eligible to be elected that person has to live 3-5 years in that electorate. 2. Throwing dirt at each other Comment: The candidates should focus on the positives they have to offer not throwing dirt at the other candidates
The ABC should pull their commentators into line and apply a little bit of fairness as they hold a valuable position in influencing people's source of information. Very one eyed commentary .
Attempts at vote buying
Really hate all the PC, gender and woke. Australia has two generations who had it too good too long and don't know what real life's issues (and threats are).
Lack of media scrutiny of statements made
Lack of policies and visions for Australia
All of the above, except nothing.
The media pack is lazy. They focus on the wrong things such as gaffes. They should be helping by critiquing the policies.
Dominance of media by a non citizen who does not have best interest of Australia at heart.
There needs to be more critical analysis and fact checking of political spin / policies.
Pork barrelling in marginal seats
Lack of long term policies and respectful debate
Don't bother reading msm.
All of the above
Lack of clear conviction and all of the above
More frigates and submarines debate More nuclear power and green hydrogen debate
You needed an "all of the above" selection.
Public is media led
The poor reporting / interpretation Reporting on the fly
Really asinine debating
The absence of discussion of important subjects.
The media generally aiding and abetting the race to the bottom by focusing on the pettiness and the drama rather than the policy (where it exists) and genuine analysis
There are some media that clearly favour anything from Labour / Greens (ie ABC, Fairfax & Guardian).
I have lost interest in politics as both parties are not fielding candidates that have the potential to move the country towards a vibrant, forward thinking, and a compassionate country.
news corp provides only biased opinion
Pork barreling



## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

Too much short-termism.
No talk on development
Short termism looking.
Foreign policy. On one hand, Russia is the bad guy (not supporting the war). Australia supports Ukraine and believes Ukraine can join NATO if it wants to. On the other hand, Solomon Islands signing an agreement with China is bad because Solomon Islands is only 2000Km from Australia. Note that Kyiv is less than 868Km from Moscow. In between is a flat land not a sea.
I intensely dislike all of the above
Can I say 'All of the above?'"
There is little long term planning, that also needs to be declared early in the campaign.
Donations to major parties are buying power & influence.
Expenditure well and truly out of all sensibility by a party that stands to win no seats, but uses their reach to spread disinformation.
Letting the parties set the agenda and not the public, excluding the climate debate
It's no wonder politicians behave the way they do, The media have a lot to answer for. The media thrive on controversy brought on by such things as gotcha questions, whereas politicians shrivel, they behave the way they do to survive. Media now has to deal with adult spoiled children
Left wing bias of the ABC

### Q4 Do we need a Federal Integrity Commission?

Yes	70.15%
No	16.99%
Don't know or care	12.86%

Waste of time, there are far more important issues dealing with budget deficits, housing affordability, unnecessary middle-class welfare.....
Not sure how that would help. Might end up doing what the party in power wants and not what is fair for the people.
But behind closed doors until wrong doing is proven
should have split answer
How else can we keep the bastards honest
Definitely. Our elected officials must be responsible & accountable for their speech & actions the same as for all citizens.
It seems to be very difficult to get an acceptable model. NSW model is appalling.
We have a court system in place and has failed miserably in NSW and seems ineffective in QLD and VIC
This should be sooner rather than later, and not before time. Hopefully it will hold the clowns responsible and improve the spend of OUR taxes.
But it needs to be a bipartisan agreement on the structure: Labor have failed to co-operate on this
There has to be checks & balances as they can't be trusted.
They'll be busy.
It should be nothing like the town square mauling/destruction undertaken by the NSW ICAC. Nor should it be double guessing decisions politicians and political parties are elected to legally make as suggested by one group of unelected elites.
We already have enough laws.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Parliament itself includes people failing to set high standards in ethical and moral behaviour, with no consequence for even serious misdoings. Institutions forming vital elements of government (Parliament, the Judiciary, the Public Service, Law Enforcement et al), and the people, organisations and institutions that interact with the business of government, must all be open to independent scrutiny and meaningful consequences for breaches of integrity.
Absolutely imperative - politicians are able to throw taxpayer funds around for political purposes with no restraint and wealthy individuals & corporations are far too easily able to manipulate government decisions in exchange for party donations,
waste of money, we have enough authorities to look at crime
Without public hearings and potential kangaroo courts.
Depends who staffs it
YES!!!!
too many jobs for the boys Look at the liberal related personnel have been added to the Administration Appeals Tribunal by Brandis and now Cash A once admired Tribunal has been trashed
probably depends on how a FIC is structured.
ASAP, and it must have independent powers
It needs to be strong, not the weak non-event offered by the LNP
Helen Haynes model...NOT the LNP model
However the detail is important to avoid a kangaroo court or a politically motivated public whipping post
History has shown that corruption in the government and opposition has increased to a point where criminality is the norm
YES
This is to stop rorts such as sports rorts, car parking rorts.
The worst blunders and rorts should have tough consequences for perpetrators.
just jobs for mates and nothing gets changed
Need more information.What dose hope to achieve.
morrison should be the first one investigated as to how he won pre-selection from last place
Despite losing Australia's best premier still no decision from NSW icac. Lawyers still taking fees
If IBAC and ICAC are anything to go by, definitely not.
The pork barrelling and poitical interference in the allocation of public monies is a disgrace and needs to be terminated
The current prime minister clearly wishes to avoid one and the scrutiny it will bring to bear if properly empowered and independent.
But not as vicious as the NSW model
I wasn't aware that it didn't exist already. Each state has one so an umbrella one would be more efficient and more unifying. Let's move away from states having their own.
Probably, but with greater protection for people being investigated from being unfairly targeted then found completely innocent.
But not a Kangaroo court
The increasing abuse of power for personal and/or political gain is at the expense of efficient management of national resources.
The current morality in the house is "anything we think we can get away with"
But needs to be effective, not a Morrison ineffective version
Though we seem to have an awful lot of commissions that have no real effect.
At some stage, more important issues to discuss

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

This is absolutely crucial before corruption, phoenix activity and misconduct completely take over
Governments, State and Federal, abolished bodies like Public Service Boards which were an important part of the Westminster system
The behaviour, conduct and lack of professionalism of elected officials is appalling and would lead to dismissal in the private sector yet. About time there is a check on accountability.
The most important long term commitment to future government
Not if it is based on the NSW ICAC
Some sort of Integrity Commission that could possibly hold federal MPs to account could be worthwhile, but it should not be modelled on for example, the NSW ICAC where politicians' careers are destroyed before an investigation even begins.
Absolutely essential to stamp out the systemic corruption
unfortunately it will be run by the government
But honesty at all levels would be preferred.
A commission will just become political.....We already have Laws in place and should use them
A red-tape band aid which feels like it might drive even blander discussion. Likely I'm not engaged enough to understand why its raised, but its not the greatest priority by any means.
But it needs to be carefully constituted - not a kangaroo court where individuals are tarred as guilty through the media without the very basics of our justice system.
Yes but not in the Top 5. Possibly in the Top 10.
Politicians need to be kept honest and responsible eg. the Robo debt.
At least not one that will ruin lives through accusations encouraging media bias feeding into social activism based on moral outrage instead of proof.
BUT not in the top ten priorities for government
It would be hoped that all deceit, corruption, unfair bias and union pandering would come to light. (Not the narrow focus of the "investigations and commissions" in Queensland and Victoria)
Needed years ago !!!
A proper integrity commission, rather than the Coalition's latest proposal
To "achieve" what in real, meaningful, voter terms???
People in positions of power must be held accountable to those who elected them.
Corruption seeps in and becomes ever more pervasive and eventually not only takes 5-10% off the top (frictional transaction cost) it gets worse and worse to point sheer madness for the smallest buck at the expense of the community occurs. Australian's have no idea how bad corruption can become and the destruction it brings. We must nip it in the bud before it gets worse and start putting people in jail.
If people don't have faith in the integrity of the Govt. people lose faith in politics
ICAC NSW has been a disgrace in ruining careers .Vic and Qld models are also a disgrace because nothing happens. The Auditor General should pass issues to the police/courts ie within the existing system of law.
It all depends on how it would work whether it is of any use.
Until they agree on a model, fund and implement unanimously the idea is just words and claims. ICAC & IBAC have not been a success so we need to look at other models.
I suspect that the rorts, misappropriations and unacceptable practices and conduct that make the headlines are the tip of the iceberg. The absence of integrity in government encourages the same lack of integrity in business and the community. None of this will improve until an Integrity Commission brings these matters into public view and applies penalties accordingly.
Only one with teeth like the NSW ICAC
modelled on any of the States - Qld, NSW or Vic
How can we expect to have an ethical public, when we don't have ethical leaders????
Now we no longer have the democrats, desperate need for someone to keep the bastards honest.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

It is really sad that one is needed.
But it's not a cure all
However do not emulate the NSW & Vic models which are just kangaroo courts that regularly ruins lives & careers of people subsequently found to be innocent.
Hasn't done much good for honest government in Dan's Victoria!!
Icac doesn't work too well
Politicians should be made to uphold standards of honesty, decency, and respect without the need for an open-ended expensive commission.
Yesterday - crucial in current environment with corruption a threat to democracy.
With teeth and retrospective powers, and soon.
As long as it delivers results and positive outcomes and is not used as a political attack mechanism as is happening at state levels.
An effective one.
But only under certain conditions. I can't accept that an unelected bureaucrat be capable of sacking/having sacked a Prime Minister.
absolute requirement and not the current Liberal model.
And one with teeth, NOT what Morrison was trying to sneak through
As a Project Manager in the construction industry & 90% of our work is for Government, I see way too much waste of tax payers money. This is by very poor scope of works, budgets and blow outs. I believe usually by people in the wrong jobs and this starts with Politicians thru to Public Servants. There is no accountability.
A Must
The clear need for it is the reason Morrison doesn't want it.
Its should include Lobbyist and politician payment Transparency. Without transparency and integrity ALL otehr issues become casualties
Only an excuse to employ more public servants and do and achieve nothing
And now.
But it depends on its terms of reference
One that can hold politicians accountable, but only after they the evidence. Public hearing are a must.
Politicians are by nature deceitful and opportunistic and need to be policed independently
The sooner the better.
I doubt it would help with corruption. There would just be more bureaucracy and more government jobs created.
Undoubtedly, there are too many politicians abusing the taxpayer for their own benefit
But not one with unfettered power
for once I agree with Scomo that the commission must not operate the way the NSW one does, It is totally wrong for a commission to claim corruption before it is proven.
We all should be (made) responsible for our actions.
A proper one with real power.
Maybe but it has to be answerable to the elected government
I'm not sure how you can say "major parties offer minor differences" when one party is offering a federal ICAC and the other flat-out refuses.
Somehow the coalitions habit of using taxpayer money for their own ends needs to be curbed
How is this not obvious in 2022.
Yes but the type of commission is politically based

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

FOR GOD'S SAKE ..... YES !!!
Yes but there need to be checks and balances so that it doesn't become a political tool
I believe that everyone in government should abide by code of ethics. Any diversion should be independently investigated to a required standard. Not trial by Media
A broad ranging one at that.
While I think an integrity commission is necessary, I am concerned about the NSW model which has crucified 3 premiers for trivial or totally irrelevant issues, which at worst were misjudgements or "politics" rather than corruption. The SA model with (I think) all discussions and findings in camera. However, the SA model needs to be improved by allowing the integrity commission to independently initiate investigations.
All i can offer is if some of the statements made in the "Cowards Castle" were made outside thereof a good deal of the judiciary and legal professions time would be taken up with wasteful libel and slander actions many of which would be successful
And it should be as brutally terrifying as possible, with full jurisdiction to investigate historical corruption.
these commissions can do more harm than good if they are conducted in secret, get too much power, and not enough oversight. eg South Australian anti corruption body
You see what the state ICACs have uncovered... You can be safely bet the Federal polities will be exposed for some serious misdealings. If we value integrity and want to stamp out corruption, we need a commission with the ability to investigate, prosecute and punish.
why would you not ....federal parliament must be the only business that operates as it wishes unchecked
Unfortunately they have proven to be kangaroo courts,ideologically biased or chasing the wrong rabbits.
As exemplified by Josh Frydenberg's inability to understand the impact his use of charitable organisations in his campaign on the future of those same organisations. While that is not an issue that would need investigating it is symptomatic of a general lack of awareness of ethics which could lead to graver failures.
We already have laws in place. We just need to enforce them and give authorities more teeth to prosecute them and let the results be released to the public.
Let's see who votes for this option
Coalition have a much better record on the Economy, Defence and funding Health. The world is a "Volatile" place at present, and we can't afford politicians with little or no experience making big decisions.
i would prefer the stronger word corruption, integrity can be ephemeral
The situation with Gladys shows these things can be a blunt instrument, and in effect the penalty occurs at the moment of announced investigation, rather than verdict --- but even so, better to have a blunt instrument than no instrument at all
One with teeth.
Enough star chambers already. It would be used as a political weapon.
Must be the most effective system without damaging peoples lives in the public arena.
much needed to ensure polities use taxpayers money for social wellbeing not personal or party gain
As long as it works, as long as there are penalties!
Absolutely definitely. There are numerous examples of unethical behaviour by politicians and sadly too many examples of corrupt behaviour
may be waste of money, the politicians should be requested as the high quality people
I don't live in a marginal seat, so all I see are my tax dollars inflating the employment income or projects that add negative value to the economy.
Sufficient legislation exists if implemented.
Both major parties obscure this constantly and hence the Teal Girls
There are good arguments both for and against a federal integrity commission
Absolutely vital

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

Not highest priority but NSW version exposed the Obeid debacle. Somehow need to avoid the circus that ended Gladys' political career
The current government has no credibility at all
With teeth & public transparency
Sooner the better.
what would it do - really ? pointless quango
Absolutely, and it needs to act retrospectively
An integrity commission will frankly pay for itself in reduction of unjustified and wasteful spending
Just another layer of bureaucracy!!
It is an absolute essential aspect of government and transparency in political expenditure of taxpayer funds.
The ICAC model is dangerous and unfair.
Parliament is a workplace and should be treated exactly the same as any other workplace
not if it is same model as NSW
One with real teeth ,as well
Given they way the NSW integrity commission works causing very competent Premiers to resign, why would you want one at the Federal level. Its dreadful for stability and only encourages cheap political point scoring
Waste of time and resources
Absolutely; our political system is rapidly declining with great risk to our democracy.
That's the job of our legal/court system
It is so bleedingly obvious.
Any integrity needs to have 'teeth' to investigate referred events, while including protections for individuals from public tarring through unsupported conjecture.
It is essential for every government to have an Integrity Commission as it keeps politicians accountable. As powerful as possible please.
Who will police the police?

### Q5 How do you intend to vote in the Lower House?

Unsure at the moment	12.35%
Coalition	37.17%
Labor	16.59%
Greens	6.78%
Independent	15.98%
United Australia Party	1.94%
Prefer not to say	4.12%
Other (add below)	5.08%

liberal democrats
normally vote below the line for senate depending on loyalty to Australia.
independents - most likely they will hold the balance of power and will be able to direct debate on both sides to the important issues climate change , aged care, NDIS ,integrity & value use for the taxpayer dollar
In the Senate I will be voting 1 for the Greens
Still deciding between Labor and the Greens, the latter with preference to Labor.
United Party, then ALP, then Greens etc

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

I have to vote Coalition because my local member is far and away the best candidate - and will win anyway. I'll be voting labor in the senate.
With reservations, but Labor at this time would be disastrous
Someone conservative centre
I believe a Palmer policy is a 15 percent levy on mining. Is that right ?? Then that's like the old mining super tax. If we had that and the carbon tax from back then we would have no deficit today
Citizens Party
Will vote the same for upper house.
Waiting for the televised debates and hopefully some hard data to determine my preferences
Probably Independent, otherwise Labor. None of the others.
The best of a bad bunch!
Independents where there preferences go to Liberals/Country Party
but it won't be coalition this time. I tend to vote for the party I dislike least. At the moment I think the coalition needs time in opposition to sort itself out (wishful thinking)
lambie network tasmania
The best candidate for my electorate and the nation
Unfortunately it all ends up as either Labor or LNP. Labor this time.
One Nation
Katter Australia Party
22 Senate parties. Greens scam.
Major parties going last.
We need a change
donkey vote
Unsure but will not be Coalition
But not unconditionally
An appropriate independent otherwise green
One Nation
Probably vote for a minor party and preference coalition above labor and the greens
Primary vote independent to show contempt for major parties, but wit preference favouring Libs.
Liberal Democrats
not sure
The Local Party
There are no good policies.
Seeking an independent with relative background and influence. Historically I choose a major party.
I do not want a hung parliament. First time to vote for Labor.
Best choice of uninspiring candidates in my electorate (Fisher) is One Nation. If Australian Values Party had a candidate he or she would get my first preference
Only because the other option will be worse for the country. ie looser spending likely, altho the coalition is no great shakes.
But only just
I'm in Michael McCormack's seat. Unlikely he'll loose. Other candidates don't inspire, just making up the numbers.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

### Q6 Who do you think will form Government?

Coalition in a majority	8.90%
Labor in a majority	18.17%
Coalition in minority	27.19%
Labor in a minority	45.74%

After 9 years of a coalition government, voters probably will want a change but will be fooled by Labour. Albanese is not a centrist.
Too many diverse options for people to choose from and disenchantment from unfortunate circumstances eg bushfires, floods, pandemic, social media allowing dreadful comments, action by state dictators being blamed on the Federal Government.
I do hope they can muster the numbers without support from independants
deal will be done with the 'teal' independents who will not want to lose their leverage in the hung parliament
Unfortunate but hopefully the country will survive 1 labour term of government.
I FEAR that the current highly conservative inept & corrupt Coalition may reign once again. I sincerely hope I'm wrong.
I hope that I am right.
But they want do a deal with the independents Ha Ha
God help us!
Independents like the Greens can be road blocks to good policy.
I would like the result to be coalition in a majority but realistically I think labor will win.
Liberals are the best campaigners.
Either party in a minority will be a disaster beholden to independents and minor parties and unable to govern effectively.
Close but hopefully common sense will prevail
The current Government will campaign relentlessly on economic management and border protection perceptions however its numbers will drop in WA, Qld and NSW. The so-called Teal Independents will hold the balance of power, negotiate various and separate deals and individually and separately guarantee the failure of No Confidence Votes in the future Coalition Government.
Australia deserves better than this tired mob of current politicians !
Could be a hung parliament
Will do a deal with the greens and break promises.
Sadly
What would I know of how people in Perth or Sydney will vote?
a big guess
For goodness sake a majority has got to lead the country. If it's bad..then the next one fixes it. With NO majority nothing gets accomplished.
Coalition with the support of the loony right - National Coal coalition, Mad Hatters and One Notion.
Most voters these days need to pass an IQ test to be eligible to vote!!! Short memories and cargo cult mentality rules !!! Also stupid baby boomers my age who want to redeem their time on the planet by voting Greens!!! Not this little duck!!
Labor in a minority- who could vote for the Libs especially Morrison who has single handedly torn up a standing contract made with the French and cost the Taxpayers \$5.5Billion in doing so.He must pay for this misdemeanour.
Which will be a disaster for positioning Australia to deal with the many heightened risks we face across the economy, national security and educational standards



## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022 Responses and open-ended comments

heaven forbid, if there are a gaggle of greens and so called independents
My second preference will go to the Western Australia Party .
I fear this will be the disastrous result for Australia.
I will not be happy with that
However I am profoundly uncertain and the position of independents is so unclear it seems impossible to predict
Too much bias within media
Too hard to say
australia has half the worlds supply of uranium yet no mention of using it for base load power
Labor's track record would indicate that it's no better placed than the coalition to handle existing issues
Labor is the least bad option. It is hardly inspirational. Albanese lacks charisma. He too is short sighted and lacks vision. Morrison is deceitful, leads to appease his benefactors and fails to look beyond today, let alone 20 years ahead. He lacks transparency. He lacks empathy. What a choice!
Perhaps wishful thinking? The Coalition is facing the perfect storm - unpopular PM, inflation, independents targeting Coalition seats uncertain geopolitical situation. None of these issues is helped by a sceptical and biased media
The Liberal Party has abandoned its conservative base and deserves to be punished for this. The Liberals are responsible for Labor being elected and Australia declining. The Marxists have won because of the Liberal Party's failings.
Any form of minority govt will be a disaster with the debt reconstruction needed and rising interest rates to be managed .
I believe the electorate has had enough dishonesty and poor handling of issues from Morrison and a number of his Ministry. On the downside, Albanese has yet to fully convince of his credentials for the job.
I have no idea
Especially with the 'fake' independents supporting Labor
Will have to work hard with the independence
At this stage do not know
The polls will get it wrong again. When faced with their ballot paper, people will realise that the Coalition has fared above average globally in managing the pandemic, the economy, security, and defence. The opposition is simply not worth the risk.
Maybe just hoping
Not sure
Let's hope the Greens and Independents hold balance of power. Only way to get things done. Sco's mob have done zilch, wasted years. Tragic.
Very hard to call. Labor should be able to win very easily but not convinced they will
As a believer in "You lose elections rather than win them" I think the Government has been in long enough and are stale
only because i believe the pollsters
Labor minority would be another disaster.
Labour & Greens - this is not a time in history to go through this experience once again as we did under Gillard. I could live with a Labour majority.
We need a change and we need to send the current political incumbents a message.
Labor should have won last time, if they had we would at least have had better policies.
Australians believe everyone should be equal, but individuals are all different. A political Party has policies one can vote for but an individual is an unknown quantity. I don't believe individuals with only one or two known objectives should have the balance of power.
Dressed up "independents".

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Hard to be optimistic about result, no matter how it goes
A hung parliament might send a strong message to both major parties that the public are not happy with their petty point scoring electioneering rather than articulating nation-building policies.
God help whoever wins as it is going to be difficult era
How can anybody vote for the Coalition after all that happened and didn't happen in the last 3 years?
All the ratbag parties will gravitate to the Labor party as the feel they can manipulate this lot to their single item outlook , again a bad thing.
The next government will be a shambles. Time to cash out of all hard assets like real estate so I can emigrate to the US quickly when necessary, leaving a scorched earth.
Many people just feel it is time for a change after a decade of one party. Unfortunately that will see a hung Parliament which is not good for democracy.
How would I know!
Whatever the election outcome, at the next election (and the one after that) I doubt we will see any substantive change in any of the issues being spoken of and promised today. Our governmental processes are so flawed that they are simply not conducive to development and progress; and the necessary ingredients - vision, competence and leadership - are missing.
A little bit of wishful thinking here
I would like to see a much stronger position adopted by our PM. In regard to the scam of climate change, some facts on where our power is going to come from in the future and the education of our children which has been taken over by the left. I could go on!.,.Ou public service is far too big and overpaid and has far too much power.
anyone's guess really
All independents will give their vote to Labor I would say, and One Nation, so can't see Coalition winning by a majority. Independents are the new trend now even though they really only major on one issue (no experience in world issues which is paramount in these troubling times)
Don't know
They do not deserve it, but they will somehow get in
liberals are wasting money, have a look at WA
Coalition too far behind in polls to catchup and quite a few of the independents will succeed which will be a real shame.
The so called Independents seem to be too anti Coalition . I find the independents to be a huge concern as they are generally one or two issue candidates. Our politicians need to have a wider range of knowledge and interests. Governing for all perhaps?? Too much to expect!!
Not looking forward to it. Hopefully they will be so weak they will do nothing.
ALP will possibly get elected in minority with support from candidates which are presenting themselves as independents but really are ALP supporters
Doing deals with anyone who will deal.
I voted for Gough Whitlam so this will be the second time I vote labour. Morrison is the worst leader of a political party in my life time - which is saying something. The cabal of evangelical mates in Cabinet is extremely worrying.
Minority governments are the norm around the world. Why not here?
Morrison has lied, created diversions and hidden away from difficulty his whole public life. Perhaps he will get away with it again
possibly hung parliament
Labor/Greens. Forget the lying denials.
Labor as a small target plus help from so called independents, also the time for change syndrome.
It is purely guesswork!
God help us What a disaster that would be Imagine what the evil Greens would do

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

I am by no means certain, but a change of government is overdue.
very hard to pick
UAP will be the spoiler and why have neither party made a big noise about the blatant lies in the UAP media advertising. Why does neither major party want to introduce truth in political advertising.
I think Labor in minority gov. with a number of good 'teal' independents would be the best outcome
I've never been so depressed by the choices offered by the two major parties. We should be leading the world in innovation, renewable energy, electrification, battery building
I have no idea
As long as it does not involve the "GREENS or single issue INDEPENDENTS
Who needs integrity, transparency, honesty and policy when you have a "relentless campaigning cyborg" as the leader of your party, along with a compliant media?
We desperately need to get rid of the Coalition
I tossed a coin.....a few times!
The Greens will unfortunately will control the government
We need vision in this country not short sighted agendas for self & crony interest!! I'm sure you guys are aware of the famous quote by Donald Horne in his legendary book "The Lucky Country"
This might be best outcome as coalition seems to be out of touch with conservatives
Although I think it will be tight victory and still depend on minorities and independents for a workable government particularly in the Senate
If the Coalition wanted to govern with the help of the independents, they shouldn't demonise them. They have no idea about negotiations or diplomacy, which makes them a liability in international relations
I hope many independents get in
Mainly as a result of large numbers of voters(unionists public servants and academics) being beholden to the largely ALP dominated management who seem to get wage increases when the general population miss out They would be mad to vote against the ALP with their jobs for life and regular wage increments
Hopefully they don't get in and we get a surprise like in 2019!
I would currently predict a labor minority, but I would give it barely better than coin-toss odds. The focus on two party preferred polls at the moment is, I think, highly misleading. I would be very surprised if most of the 'teal' independents supported a labor minority government. Their constituencies are thoroughly blue-blood, merely socially progressive. I think there is a very high chance that many of the independents would be inclined to assume that the Coalition would operate very differently with a change of leadership (arguable - it has shown a very consistent platform since 2013). There is also a strong human tendency to believe (usually erroneously) that 'things will be different if it's ME involved', and therefore the independents are highly likely to believe that the Coalition would be more likely to deliver on an ICAC and meaningful climate policy simply by virtue of needing to deal with the independents. I think such a view would be deeply mistaken, but I think it is also highly likely to occur. Therefore, to win government, Labor would need to come so close to a majority that it could form government with only the support of the Greens, or the Greens plus at most one independent. That still seems like the most likely outcome, on current polling, but not by much.
still a way to go
unfortunately the colourless leader of the ALP will fail to drag them across the line ....BUT ....anyone , even Donald Duck than Morrison and his mob who simply dont deserve another shot
I hope I am wrong
Thankfully, Labor
There are many falsehoods spread by the major parties. One of them is the "chaos" of a minority government. Recent history in Australia would suggest that sensible independents that hold the balance of power promote sensible government.
No idea really
Independants will hold the balance of power and their focus will be climate change. Could be the end of The Coalition?

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Closer to Election day the numbers will start to firm one way or the other.
Don't know.
I don't believe the Coalition deserves to win this time. They've had 10 years and generally performed reasonably but many mistakes. I'll still vote for the Coalition under duress. I just don't think Labor have the answers & Albo just doesn't cut it.
A wish, not a prediction.
Even if I don't think this, I hope it.
we cannot stand another term under Morrison
I expect an increased number of independents. I hope Labor can hold enough seats to form a government, because this country cannot afford another 3 years of the Coalition "not holding a hose". Government inaction over the past 2 terms has cost this country dearly.
God help Australia, let's hope we don't have another 3-6 years of narcissism, bungling and incompetence.
haven't made decision and review further.
do not know. May be labor as people are looking for a change
Sco-mo has rat cunning to make it through to another term, Labor fails to inspire
Policy failures by major parties opens the way for independents and greens to capture the middle ground.
One of the 2 major parties will have to live with a dog`s breakfast of a coalition.
This is a close call, with Albo's lack of charisma and inability to match Morrison on the campaign trail being the factors that ultimately have me believe the Coalition will hang on. Getting COVID was the smartest thing he has done so far...
Not easy to predict
We expect a responsible government will act on behalf of every Australian.? not a selective group of loud mouth idiots interested only in issues that cause dissent in the our community
The number of independents running against the Liberal Party is making it difficult for good Liberal candidates to cut thru
Teal independents can hold Labor to more ambitious climate targets
Suspect independents will favour Labour's spending approach to secure pet projects
Any coalition will be weaker
Labor, Liberal either way a minority govt.
labor supported by greens + indeps.
Who would vote for the Coalition after all that happened and didn't happen during the last three years?
It'll be won or lost on a knife edge by the votes of undecided voters.
Too close to call
The Greens are a big concern in a minority government
Easily could be a Labor minority,also.
Anything but what we have now. One can only hope.
I think as the election gets closer in this uncertain world, voters will stick with a known commodity
Whichever gets elected, 49.5% of the Australian population voted for the other party - hardly a "mandate"
The minority Labor government of Gillard was one of the highest performing parliamentary terms we've seen since Hawke/Keating and made some real positive changes
Lack of bench strength in Libs
I think they will get there on their own without the need for independent support, but I welcome the minority government if required.

#### Q7 Any other comments?

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Elections are tedious affairs of misinformation and lies and are only important for the undecided swing voters. The majority of voters will vote how they have voted in the past and will not be swayed by the election campaigns of the major parties.
Labor will spend money till we are even more in debt and we may not be able to defend our country from China. Our children will live in a socialist society and have a much lower standard of living.
Lets improve life in Australia for ALL
we are highly liekly to end up with a Labor PM whjo has not had a 'real' job in his working life, but knows the 'system' very well.
I hope that we have more balanced independents elected.
Very difficult this year. ScoMo is not popular . But he has done a reasonable job. We do not have to like our leader, but I respect him , it's a hard job.
Neither major party is very different to the other - Perhaps it's time for performance based assessments of every elected representative? I wonder who would vote for that in parliament?
Having the teal candidates shows how far liberals have lost their direction and original beliefs. Seems to be all about power for the sake of having power. Morrison 'this is my leader' two days before knifing Turnbull
Keep up the good work
Pity help Australia if Anthony Albanese becomes our Prime Minister and is required to represent all Australians on the irequired to represent all Australians on the international stage.
Who would go into politics today with the vile abuse on social media, unwillingness of Australians to face reality and the other side of the same coin, our obsession with unimportant but emotive issues, eg transgender sport participation..
Australia has sunken to new lows !!!
Means test the NDIS, is going to send us broke.
the only time federal politicians show up in WA is when there's an election. I've got no faith in any of them.
I will be incredibly disappointed if this Govt is rewarded with victory given some of the extraordinary behaviour and contempt they have shown, from Christian Porter and Alan Tudge, through to their general treatment of women, misuse of the Parliament Prayer Room, horrific failure around quarantine and COVID generally, making Aus the laughing stock of the world in terms of climate change, submarine fiasco, relationships with China and Pacific Islands, Barnaby Joyce, the list goes on and on. Even if voters don't embrace the ALP, how could they possibly reward this lot? It can only be selfishness or stupidity.
Both parties really disappoint me. The Liberal Party had plenty of time to do good things but often dropped the ball or bungled the management. Both have been asleep at the wheel on China. The Liberals over did Job Keeper with so much money and no oversight for businesses that did not need it. Both parties fail to prosecute a pragmatic climate change plan that moves the country forward without destroying the country doing it.
We should have first past the post voting and four year terms
Labor has had four years to get its Policies and Leadership sorted. It may have sorted the former. Its processes have failed with the key element of the latter by failing to select a compelling communicator with a clear and accurate grasp of the issues. Australia will be the poorer for Labor's poor judgement.
I believe Independents will gain significantly in this election at the expensive of the Liberal Party - how this will pan out from a governing perspective I don't know
Politicians are the same the world over they promise to build bridges even where there is no river.
Labor just pander to the welfare vote. The silent majority never get the recognition they deserve. They work hard without asking for anything.

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

The leaders of both parties are not at all impressive. I am worried that independents will have the balance of power and will pursue their own electorate needs before the needs of the nation. Australia has not had a "Statesman" as a PM since John Howard.
Can we just hold the election next week and save us all the agony
Will Put coalition labor and greens last
We have very few quality and able politicians.
Too many voters are persuaded by the media, so the idea of one person one vote is an illusion
Watch out for the Bias from Newspapers and BIG MONEY ??????
Dual nationality should be allowed for prospective senators.
If we are stuck with the coalition, Australia is in real trouble. What has the government achieved over the past decade? Nothing except waste tax payers funds on projects that lack any business case.
Too much money wasted on campaigning - All parties, including major and independents, especially the independents (independents usually stand with no policies in mind - people should be voting for a party on policies which are for the good of Australia not for the popularity of a particular candidate to enjoy a ride on taxpayers money.
We must bring in 5 year terms so that whoever gets elected can get things done!!Year 1 they settle in Year 2 they start doing things and Year 3 they start to prepare for the next election!!
Very disappointing- Australia needs a plan and we don't have one being offered by either by either party
I can't believe Australia has gone so long without a credible candidate that people can get behind (and not to stab in the back as has become common).
Australia should have non compulsory voting and abolish preferential voting.
The more Governments promise and give, the harder it will be to balance the books.
I am so sick of the Major political parties. They have just touch with the ordinary people and have no vision for Australian. Our democracy is at a low ebb
This electioneering period has reached a new low
Both major parties are constrained by the massive borrowing taken to enable OZ to survive employment problems from Covid. Full credit to Morrison for taking risk of biggest debt policy in 2020 2021 enabling OZ to survive better than most other nations..
I do not detect a clear move for change but there does seem to be a dislike of both major parties and a feeling that any outcome is unlikely to make much difference.
Labor team totally inadequate, full of union hacks, failed lawyers and party hacks. Labor needs complete restructuring of selecting political candidates - more dentists, taxi drivers, business people, accountants etc.
The economy and low unemployment is under control so why change for the unknown Labor was a disaster when voted in last time
I'd like to see a hung parliament where the minor parties have more say to keep the government honest. It's just the lesser of two evils given the absolute lack of leadership in Australian politics
both parties lack strong leadership we will soon be run by China if we don't stand up to Putin
Australia is facing its greatest threats economically and polictically since Second World War.It needs a stable And visionary government to lead us through the chaos of our times labor is not an option with these stakes at hand
Andrew Robb should be exiled from Australia foe life for giving away Darwin Harbour.
nobody seems to want to pull up Clive Palmer for his ads that are just shallow general statements - they have no solutions and have zero chance of having to be implemented by his party as they have zero chance of winning government.
The fake independents will do untold damage to the country with their single-issue gripes.
once again have to choose least worst. Hard to believe we are the lucky country.
All the major parties need, especially Labor and Liberal need to improve their candidate selection processes. They need to move away from career politicians. They need to embrace diversity in all its form, so as to

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

<p>better reflect society as it is. We need vision. We need to embrace change so we can grow and prosper. We need a functioning public service. It's role has been taken over by ministerial advisers based in ministers offices. We need to arrest the decline in our democracy.</p>
<p>ScoMo will need another miracle or perhaps it will take Australians who have become so insular during the pandemic, to look at how 'lucky' we really are comparatively speaking and to think rationally rather than emotionally - a big ask. The war in Ukraine is contributing significantly to inflation as well as recent floods at home. Interest rates going from .1% to even 2% should not create a crisis if the banks have actually been factoring increases into their approved housing loans. When I fill up my tank I like to think that it is contributing in some way to the outcome Ukraine</p>
<p>Bad cess to the baste</p>
<p>I have reached the point of watching news and fast forwarding through the political parts - we are spending billions on trying to stop domestic violence, bullying and corruption yet we show political candidates verbally abusing each other, bullying each other. We need politicians to set an example to the general public. Just tell me your policies and how you will pay for them. Stop the media being so negative. Things are not that bad for the majority of Australians.</p>
<p>The coalition have a long record of prudence and good management, Labor , particularly this time have nothing to offer except that they will waste money, do as the unions tell them and give USA rerun of Whitlam and Rudd, truly very worrying.</p>
<p>Frustrated Liberal in a seat held by a moderate liberal, cannot vote for the moderate!</p>
<p>We need cleaver and young leaders to drive our beautiful country for our future.</p>
<p>Will vote Lib Dems in Senate, for dmaller govt and preference Nationals in coalition. Cimate change is bull.</p>
<p>So depressing. The media have to take a serious stake here.</p>
<p>While our politics is such a circus we, as a nation, are falling way behind other Western nations (notably Europe), especially in terms of the opportunities offered by conversion to a sustainable economy, based on renewable energy.</p>
<p>There should be more encouragement for science graduates to enter politics</p>
<p>Fixed term for politicians in order to get newer ideas, Labour politicians have moribund outlooks</p>
<p>I believe there needs to be a federal minister and watchdog who closely watches the grants and organisation funding distributions</p>
<p>This is a crucial election: the economy, huge debt, overreach on climate change , ridiculous housing costs; woke craziness, education patterns, social disruption, over populating capital facilities without their capacity to accommodate high migration, decreasing manufacturing etc etc</p>
<p>The dismantling of democracy through hindrance of free speech, raids on the media, lack of leadership, being out of touch with reality, spin, lies, and lack of accountability is disappointing for the country as a whole. I suspect a shift towards Labor, Greens and independent candidates will result.</p>
<p>We need a commission to look at Robodebt Waste of money to marginal seats Still can't believe Morrison was sacked from 2 previous Tourism Councils , and lied his way into the seat of Cook , and ppl still think he is great Less praying for a miracle and more walking like you have a spine, and fix things</p>
<p>time for a change</p>
<p>We need 4 year terms. Media (including the ABC needs an overhaul)</p>
<p>If there is a hung parliament, keep the Greens out, and ensure the independents forma credible and trustworthy balance of power blobk.</p>
<p>It is said that we get the politicians we deserve. If we have lost faith and trust in our politicians perhaps it is because as a community we are expecting too much from our governments and take too little responsibility for the outcome of our own decisions. We seem to have forgotten that with rights come responsibilities.</p>
<p>The Labor party is unable to adequately articulate any policy of note, and in fact is confused when it comes to its own climate, borders, and economic policies. It has a leader that did not even know the unemployment rate or official cash rate for goodness sake. The Coalition on the other hand, have successfully managed the pandemic, has the economy going full steam ahead with the lowest unemployment in decades, and has a far more knowledgeable and capable front bench than the Labor party. The choice is obvious.</p>

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

<p>We are the luckiest country on earth which is borne out of the immigrants that want to come and reside here. If any political party can achieve policy settings right it would be an even greater place to live. I tend to switch off during election campaigns because I get sick of hearing the whinging and whining and the political bias that comes out of the press on both sides of politics. If only the country could produce a great statesperson that could inspire, rather the inept lot that we have at the moment.</p>
<p>Yes. The general perception that the pandemic is over is wrong. No reporting anymore of cases and deaths. People need to realise that the virus is a direct consequence of our global environmental rape and pillage. More environmental rape and pillage, global warming denial, just like the fires and floods.</p>
<p>Fibre to the Node NBN connection using already known to be unreliable copper lines when installed in my suburb, precludes me from voting Liberal again until this is upgraded. NBN dropouts are a nightmare for my work from home end of week bank transfers. Every time this happens, I am reminded that I am paying for a Liberal government "cost saving" on the NBN rollout.</p>
<p>I attribute the lack controversial policies from Labor to the incompetent of the Shorten's campaign in 2019 and self interests of some sections of the community.</p>
<p>Let's just get it over with</p>
<p>I think the ALP will win but will do poorly as conditions worsen economically and are at risk of only lasting one term</p>
<p>The current Government has largely caused his rise in inflation through irresponsible, profligate spending.</p>
<p>I would like to see politicians with a better and long term vision for our country.</p>
<p>Very disappointed that tax is such a sacred cow in Australia. Businesses and households alike received significant amounts of borrowed or printed money at the start of the Covid crisis. Time to pay some of it back with tax changes and a responsible, non-inflationary Budget that is not in deficit and starts to address Government Debt.</p>
<p>May 21st can not come quick enough.</p>
<p>The one saving grace - Shorten didn't become Prime Minister in 2019&gt;</p>
<p>I would normally vote Liberal but the current options are not worth voting for. Labor have at least form the last 3 years presented a cohesive front. The Greens are simply not credible. Nobody with any self respect and a shred of common sense would vote for the Palmer United Party. Our best bet at this point in time is enough credible independents that may provide a sensible, credible and honest balance of power &amp; direction.</p>
<p>If Australia had better politicians who actually thought in the longer term we would be an even luckier country.</p>
<p>WE need a framework where parties have to provide hard data on their plans and costings to allow measurement of their performance in subsequent years. The media appears only interested in gotcha moments.</p>
<p>Australia is the "lucky country"; whether by good luck or good practice/management doesn't appear to concern the "average" Australian or more particularly the Australian Left leaning Media portraying themselves as Journalists. How long we will be "lucky" could be decided in May.</p>
<p>Time for a change - must of the economic fortunes of Australia have nothing to do with how is in power at the time. Bit like election roulette - sometimes you get lucky, other times not. The next 3 yrs will be tough, the last 3 yrs was tough on the health side of things (COVID and its impact)</p>
<p>The current Govt is tired, dishonest &amp; bereft of vision. Time for a broom, minority Labor govt provides the best chance of some worthwhile legislation being passed.</p>
<p>After the 21 May election, the government will be formed by the party which is least unpopular. Unfortunately it won't</p>
<p>The media have a lot to answer for as they are so biased only the Murdoch press</p>
<p>Time for change</p>
<p>There are major waves coming: rising interest rates / inflation (first time in 40 years) and a much harder macro environment - aging population - unfunded retirements (many of us will be retired for 30-40 years) - shrinking tax take - lack of debate - productive hours and social skills lost to social media - discipline in school falling, etc etc - and the mining, energy, agricultural wealth being spread across an ever growing</p>



## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

<p>population base must equal loss in standard of living (GDP growth often means drop in real standard of living).</p>
<p>Business needs to take a more active role with politicians vacating the field. On climate change it appears that business are leading the way, But they should be louder in the media to call out misinformation. Similarly they should speak about Federal integrity commission, productivity, wages, Child care etc</p>
<p>The belief that governments can solve everything and that everything is free( ie somebody else will pay)is going to be blown asunder.Nearly 30 years of economic prosperity doesn't create a natural resilience when things turn difficult</p>
<p>Disgusted with the media not reporting fairly , especially the mistakes of Labor and the lies rolled out by Albanese and the 'loony left'</p>
<p>Politics is now a blood sport where vested media interests are more interested in personal attacks and fringe issues. The desire to be re-elected transcends everything, which means that large voting groups and people living in marginal seats get all the money and attention. Our taxation system rewards people self funded retirees like me and punishes my children. My adult daughter works in retail, gets paid peanuts and pays more tax than I do. Both my children are still living at home because they can't afford to rent let alone buy anywhere. The system is broken.</p>
<p>Bye bye Smirko</p>
<p>The death of bravery in decision making, to avoid what needs to be done long term, eventually will come home to roost. The media should try and actually add value to the political discourse by holding politicians to account for their longer term vision of our future, rather than focussing on shorter term white noise.</p>
<p>The more independent we will have in parliament, the better. Most if not all the independents we have in parliament conduct themselves very well. They listen to their constituents and represent them foremost. They can vote accordingly in parliament and not just give a blank vote according to the party line. They bring up issues that the major parties in their Canberra bubble don't even think about. The independents don't do the annoying theatrics and bad behaviour we see during question time of the major party members. The world will not come to an end with plenty of independents. They are much better at negotiating a compromise than the major parties. The Government could be much better with more independents so that the major parties cannot ram through all of their ideologically driven agenda and we might get a much more measured outcome, more common sense. A lot of countries in the world don't have a major party that holds majority in parliament and a lot of these countries do very well, example Switzerland.</p>
<p>Really glad I only have 1 kid. That makes it feasible to fireproof their financial future, assuming no CCP invasion.</p>
<p>I'm extremely over the current nine year Liberal/National cluster f###.</p>
<p>Whole election process need to be reviewed - major policy changes. If an elected liberal or labor member resigns from the party, he/she should not be allowed to continue sitting as an independent. Each party should consider inviting expressions of interest from general public to be considered to stand for election by that party. Some of the independents standing for election could have been invited to join a major party?</p>
<p>How many more Governments will fall over failure to reach agreement on what should be done to 'resolve' climate change???</p>
<p>Politics and government in Australia are at a very low ebb. Major issues are not debated and resolved but are used to berate the other party for petty point scoring. Political funding by favoured industries is rampant and largely corrupt. We are becoming an economy based on consumption not production and while we have the illusion of wealth we have unsustainable levels of personal and government debt. We claim to live in the Asian region but we tightly hold the hands of the West. Asia sees us as insincere and we endlessly criticise China for having the same aspirations that we accept from the US. We have no sustainable energy policy, no climate plan, we undervalue education, we have a diminishing industrial base and we continue to ship bulk materials off-shore for other economies to profit from. Whatever colour/flavour is the government, will any of this change ?</p>
<p>Coalition does not deserve to win but they are by far the best of the lot.</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Restrict the influence of big business lobbyists and outlaw pork barrelling</li> <li>2. Political donations must be transparent and traceable and limited to \$1000 per person or corporation.</li> </ol>
<p>Reduce immigration and decarbonize</p>

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Our political leadership at both state and federal level needs a complete overhaul.
Please no Clive P or Craig K!
Fixed terms with no campaign period. Continuous assessment.
The Murdoch media is a clear and present danger to Australia.
Disgusted with the deceit of the so called teal independent candidates who deny they are simply Labour Party supporters.
We need some leadership
Unlikely to happen but both major parties adopting realistic policies for the greater good of the country and plan for the long-term, not the next election.
I think many Australians take our democratic rights for granted. Democracies around the world are under pressure and in some cases threat. More needs to be invested in education on the rights and freedoms our democracy has compared to other countries.
For those of us who are disillusioned by the majors it's the Independents in the Senate that count. I cannot understand why people are rusted on to major arrows. The LNP was supposed to be better managers but their deficits and tax cuts have ruined budget integrity. Labor is supposed to care for the less privileged yet they too are not brave or honest enough to tell us taxes will need to increase to pay for better aged care and health services.
I also agree that independents will have a huge impact as a result of major party dissatisfaction and it's highly frustrating that many of these independents both in the upper and lower house appear one-eyed and hold the government and people to ransom with their personal views instead of working for the greater good. ( I do note that there are several of these politicians in both major parties as well.)
Please can we have 5 year terms. Having to stomach tiresome campaigns every 3 years undermines my belief in democracy. It's pathetic.
I believe the Independents in Melbourne and Sydney ( Daniel, Spender et al) will do well as will Chaney in Perth and not an evangelical amongst them.
i am a long time conservative voter. I detest Morrison. A term or 2 of labour would be worth it to see the back of him!
The Australian public deserves a higher standard of debate from our politicians. I am very disappointed in the lack of vision and strong policies from both major parties. We still find that politicians run from discussion of important topics like climate change, despite the views of the majority of the public that this is an important issue for them.
An election that I fear greatly for the country if we continue down the same path.
The sad thing about the current Liberal party is that they have shifted so far from where they were decades ago and in doing so have lost most of their best people.
Bring back Menzies or Howard or even Hawke but all the current ones are useless.
Politicians should be held accountable for any lies they tell
Major parties disgust me. No leadership, trying to keep the minority woke happy.
When will we get the next Gough Whitlam? There has to be a leader with vision out there somewhere.
I don't trust Scott Morrison or Barnaby Joyce and according to media reports they do not trust each other, so why would i vote for them to lead the country?
Very poor choice. Neither party or leader appeals.
Neither major party has a long term vision. The election has become too presidential Scmo v Albo, when they are simply the current leaders and could change like before. How will real wages be increased, is unemployment low because of the lack of overseas workers and travellers or is it that 1 days work a week and it's counted as being employed. How will the debt be reduced without real tax reform and who will be blamed when the residential property bubble burst, when unaffordability is not even being discussed and negative gearing and capital gains discounts continue.
What are the Liberal Party Policies in regard to leading the country forward if they form Government without any reference to any of the other Parties?

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

<p>Too many independents will make governing difficult - they are an all care, no responsibility group. Both major parties continually fail to impress and must show they will improve their performances significantly to earn the votes they seek. The majors might start by removing their deadwood members</p>
<p>I'll be glad when it's over.</p>
<p>Just hope that the Senate doesn't block all the good ideas that will emerge from the independents and greens</p>
<p>There is no leadership in federal government on both sides, and no visionary or inspired politician with perception of how the future should look. they all just want to serve a term and retire on a big fat government pension and becoming irrelevant while commenting on the state of the nation</p>
<p>The sooner this charade is over the better.</p>
<p>Not watching any more political debates or news as sick of the bluff and bluster especially morrison</p>
<p>There are too many hopeless and self serving politicians.</p>
<p>Lets het some honesty and integrity back into politics</p>
<p>I do not trust any of them!</p>
<p>We definitely need to abandon some 'traditions' such as supporting religions and providing tax heaven for all sorts of religious devotions.</p>
<p>Nope. I'm over it.</p>
<p>No one is willing to attack the deficit. We're just kicking the can down the road and leaving it for future generations.</p>
<p>I am concerned for AUSTRALIA. I wish us to be united, NOT separate into minorities.</p>
<p>The Murdoch media have brought democracy in this country to its knees.</p>
<p>Both major parties are becoming populated with union officials and party hacks. We need people with hard life and business experience who have employed staff and appreciate how hard it is to pay wages every week.</p>
<p>The three worst Prime Ministers that I am aware of are Billy MacMahon, Tony Abbott and Morrison - All Coalition.</p>
<p>Is it me or has federal political debate changed in the last 15 years. It was never great, but was it ever this poor?</p>
<p>Hard to distinguish between the 2 major parties.</p>
<p>The Liberal Party in W A had a " Kick a Granny out of her flat " legislation before the Labour party was ele on the table before the Labour party took over from them . The Labour party is now prepared to enact that same legislation. I shall never ever vote for Labour ! ! !</p>
<p>I think the French system of a two party run off is a good one</p>
<p>Bah-humbug</p>
<p>Refer to above. If I get started here I could be still here tomorrow at the keyboard.</p>
<p>Senate is most interesting race of all but no question on it???</p>
<p>I don't believe that voting should be compulsory. If a person is only voting because he is compelled than it's better if he doesn't vote. Also I think that giving preferences should be optional</p>
<p>The Upper house is just as important. You only need to look at Queensland to see how bad it is with no Upper house!</p>
<p>It is time for proper representation rather than party political point scoring</p>
<p>Pity we have to vote, I wouldn't vote for any of them.</p>
<p>For all his faults, at least G Whitlam had a vision for Australia. Was he the last to do so?</p>
<p>Our political process has been seriously damaged by self-serving and short-sighted participants. We need to escape the three-year electoral cycle (five years preferred). We need to make it clear to the political class that we do not accept the current venality and that we are looking for representatives with genuine vision for the long term interests of Australia and the political and moral courage to pursue that vision.</p>

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

<p>The "Teal "Independents"" are not independent, and are being organised and financed by a group with an agenda. I like there being independents but don't know how that can be achieved without mandated government funding to give a level playing field.</p>
<p>It feels like a non-event so far</p>
<p>1. need to stop pork barreling 2. false facts should be prosecuted</p>
<p>I think the media and polls are under-representing the younger generation's and women's vote - which I think are staunchly against the Morrison government, as a whole. There will be a big swing from those voters who care more about housing and climate.</p>
<p>The Labour Party and independent consistently demonstrate spoiler tactics rather than persist with a cogent thought through set of policies or direction. It seems to be adopt the latest squeaky wheel fad.</p>
<p>I don't like the regularity of reporting of opinion polls, especially the unreliable focus on "two-party preferred" results. However, I am keen to see the collective opinion of this community.</p>
<p>I wish all parties would stop functioning in their own self interest and truly look at getting affordable solutions to our major hurdles instead of non stop bickering and misdirection.</p>
<p>I There are so many people in Australia who don't care about Politics, the Economy or their future, so for this reason I believe it should be "Optional" Voting. Everybody can still vote, but if you don't care, then don't vote, and that way we get the government we deserve.</p>
<p>I am a customary liberal voter - only voted labor once in my life (Bob Hawke), but the liberals have worked hard to earn a defeat</p>
<p>It amazes me that the Labor party is allowed to make so many untrue claims with no outcry.</p>
<p>A Labor/ Greens Govt. is really a great concern for this Country.</p>
<p>PM,s comment that they are better at managing the economy does not stand up based on recent research</p>
<p>There is a commonly held perception that the Money Pit is endless. Each and every cause is calling for more funding, but there cannot be any increase in taxes to cover the spending. There has to be better controls in place to ensure the monies get to the needy, not to the greedy!</p>
<p>Everyone is selfish. Property owners,politicians,businessesses etc Over my life I always believed in the power of the individual and personal achievement. But now my views have changed slowly. The fair go is diminishing. Young people can't find a decent professional job unless you know someone or have experience. Housing is unabafforunable with millionaire pensioners paying no tax. CEO's raking in millions no matter their performance. The liberal party has abandoned all fiscal discipline and the minor parties are whacko conspiracy theorists. Their is no good right wing parties and the left are even worse. The media hypes up stories and just wants to attack people with gotchas. We are the lucky country destroying ourselves. Care about people. Stop proping up housing.Get rid of middle class welfare. Actually train australuans to work not BS uni degrees.Love your country.Give people a chance. One day you might be the person who needs help.</p>
<p>It has been a tough time over the past two years BUT the Federal has not made any progress on the BIG issues</p>
<p>I find it dispiriting that such a significant event has our leaders conducting themselves like school children. squabbling like school children. It takes a lot of time and effort to prepare for the future, so: Defence is important, Education is important,, immigration and Jobs are important. They all have a pay-off time in decades and must be fostered now.</p>
<p>Australia needs a leader of intelligence who can articulate a way forward for the nation, unite our people through trust and a vision for the future.</p>
<p>1st important should be the domestic economy as it will affect all other aspects in the country. 2nd important should be taking neutral and balanced foreign policy by stopping the negative and aggressive manner so to maintain Australian's business, exports and peace with other countries. Otherwise, who is to be hurt? A good business will never want to damage the relationship with their good and big customers, vice versa.</p>
<p>Jim Chalmers would be a good treasurer</p>
<p>Scott Morrison is a man for all seasons</p>

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Likely to be a hung parliament or minority win with side deals with the Independents being done to get bills through. Deja vu unfortunately!! 😞
LNP has a clear cut detailed plan. Labor/Greens has policies with which I do not agree and I do not know how they will implement them. How they are going to fund them is not dealt out.
I would like to see a return to Australia 1st when it comes to employment. Australia is good at small business. To achieve this may follow the EU move to the right to repair
This has been one of the most disappointing election campaigns in memory. So much ultra cautious compromise and so little essential vision and charismatic leadership.
Wake me on the 22nd.
I think independents will have a huge impact as a result of major party dissatisfaction. This is not preferable as would be a majority government but I don't think that either major party deserves my vote
I wish I had Donald Trump or an Australian equivalent to vote for.
Australian Values Party gets my first preference for Queensland Senator
Vote early vote often lol
Liberals/ Scot Morrison are too divisive - coalition has lost its way.
We require real alternative political parties that focus on voter needs that serve not only individuals but all citizens, stop pandering to minority voters
We must have the type of person in our parliament that really cares about Australia Australia not their own or their associates interests
The current government and its leadership team is the worst in my memory as an voter of over 50 years. What has happened to the LNP, at times they seem to be a bunch of extremists and are creating division in the community. Spin is winning over facts in this election campaign, fueled in part by the MSM.
Having the cross benches hold the balance of power in both houses will not facilitate any restructuring of revenue raising measures as independents will want to be known for spending programs rather than revenue programs
Its time for a benevolent dictator (and can I suggest myself?)
The political system is very sick in this country.
Can't wait 'til it's over!
The LNP have brought this outcome upon themselves, through incompetency and dishonesty. Lack of integrity has given the independents all the oxygen they need to get traction
The scare campaign about independents is madness. The more independents in parliament the better. The ones who are in there behave very well and think the issues through properly not like the party members who just go along with everything the party comes up with. The independents listen to their constituents. They can be discussed with for a compromise.
The government term should be extended to 5 years and the date should be fixed to avoid the nonsensical or perceived advantage gained by the PM of the day to pick the date to hold the election.
The contest for government started some 6 months ago and has degenerated into farce since then. People are heartily sick of the whole charade, especially Labor's attempts to thwart the morrison governments attempts at wedging and distributing largesse to their chosen few.
Lacking political leadership Need to have fixed terms for politicians- too many labour politicians with out dated ideas
Australian politics are becoming a personality context - Presidential like. This is regrettable as we don't follow the US system
May God help Australia
I dont understand why there are so many new but vacant houses. I can only assume they are owned by OS investors which is wrong.
The fact that Labor has not come out with any information of how it will fund its aged care and NDIS expenditure policies concerns me greatly. That, combined with the concessions it will likely make to the

## Firstlinks poll: Federal election 2022

### Responses and open-ended comments

Greens and independents to get the numbers to form Government doesn't bode well for the future economic management of the country.
I am appalled at the low quality of our body politic in the past 15 years....perhaps Clare and Frydenberg are exempt from my considered judgement!
Something has to change. Morrison's insincerity and protection of so much dead wood, Defence purchasing failures, pork barrelling, always blaming someone else and now the Chinese agreement in the Solomon's, he is incapable of running a chook raffle. We need a vision for the country, what it can be and how to achieve it.
If you interviewed 80% of our current politicians you would not offer them a job.
The pettiness of the parliamentary aspirants is below kindergarten level.
Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what can I do for my country!
Those who say the major parties look similar are only making a very superficial observation. They are most likely disengaged.
It has been a long time, if ever, that the Australian voting public have been so poorly represented at a party-leader and policy level on both sides of the political divide.
Our short term election cycle lends itself to short term thinking. Not a lot of long term planning
I recently watched a Harvard interview of Lee Kuan Yew ( great Singaporean leader); he impressed with his vision and statement that a leader needs to be consistent. Our parl leaders are pygmies compared to Lee
I personally cannot wait to see the back of the most corrupt government I've seen in my lifetime. The quality of LNP representatives is the poorest it's ever been.
Roll on 20 days time when this sideshow is over !