

# The Essential Report – Fair Agenda

27 July 2022



## The Essential Report

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**Prepared By:** Essential Research

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**Data Supplied by:**



Our researchers are members of The Research Society.

## About this poll

This report summarises the results of a fortnightly omnibus conducted by Essential Research with data provided by Qualtrics. The survey was conducted online from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and is based on 1,082 respondents.

The weighting efficiency applied to the results at a national level is 94%, which gives an effective sample size of 961. The maximal margin of error at this effective sample size is  $\pm 3.2\%$  (95% confidence level).

The full methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix at the end of the report.

Note that due to rounding, not all tables necessarily total 100% and subtotals may also vary.

*Prior to answering these questions, respondents were informed about the option to select 'Prefer not to answer' if they felt uncomfortable with the topic.*

## Key Insights

### 1. Most Australians agreed with the arguments put to them about abortion care – particularly those aged 55 or over

- There was little difference in 'total agreement' across the four arguments tested:
  - o 72% of Australians agreed that 'Australian Governments should ensure that patients who want abortion care can access it',
  - o 71% agreed that 'One person's religious beliefs should NOT impact on a patient's access to abortion care',
  - o 70% agreed that 'Laws in Australia should support nurses to be appropriately trained for the purposes of abortion care without risk of criminalisation', and
  - o 69% agreed that 'Australian Governments should take action to address barriers to accessing abortion care faced by many patients in rural and regional areas, or those experiencing domestic violence'.
  
- Those aged 55+ were more likely to agree, than those aged 18-34 – however, this was due to younger respondents selecting 'neutral' or 'prefer not to answer' rather than disagreeing with the argument(s).
  - o 'Australian Governments should ensure that patients who want abortion care can access it' (79% of those aged 55+ agreed, compared to 61% of those aged 18-34). 19% of those aged 18-34 were 'neutral' and 11% preferred not to answer.
  - o 'One person's religious beliefs should NOT impact on a patient's access to abortion care' (81% of those aged 55+ agreed, compared to 59% of those aged 18-34). 20% of those aged 18-34 were 'neutral' and 10% preferred not to answer.
  - o 'Laws in Australia should support nurses to be appropriately trained for the purposes of abortion care without risk of criminalisation' (77% of those aged 55+ agreed, compared to 59% of those aged 18-34). 11% of those aged 18-34 preferred not to answer.
  - o 'Australian Governments should take action to address barriers to accessing abortion care faced by many patients in rural and regional areas, or those experiencing domestic violence' (75% of those aged 55+ agreed, compared to 61% of those aged 18-34).

## Opinions of abortion care in Australia

Q To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Neither agree, nor disagree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ Prefer not to answer

Australian Governments should ensure that patients who want abortion care can access it.



One person's religious beliefs should NOT impact on a patient's access to abortion care.



Laws in Australia should support nurses to be appropriately trained for the purposes of abortion care without risk of criminalisation.



Australian Governments should take action to address barriers to accessing abortion care faced by many patients in rural and regional areas, or those experiencing domestic violence.

