

Exit Polling: Economy dominates, stronger support for targets than repeal

8 September 2013

A national exit poll showed the economy and jobs overshadowed the 'carbon tax' and other issues, voters were split on repeal and there was more support for the Coalition honouring their promised pollution reduction targets than repealing the carbon laws.

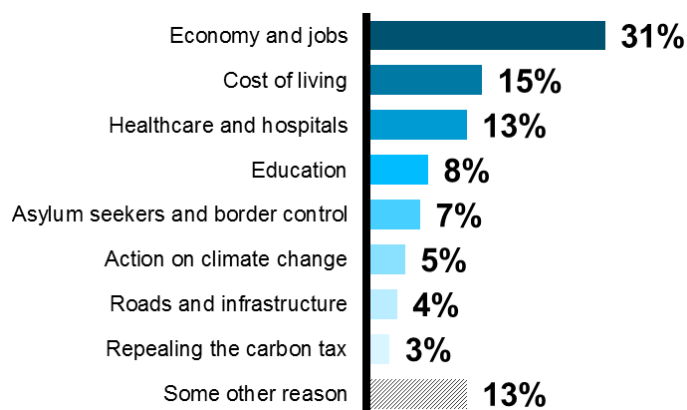
The findings come from a weighted JWS Research national IVR (automated) poll of over 1,500 Australians, commissioned by The Climate Institute.

Key findings include:

The issue of most importance driving Australians' votes yesterday was concern for the economy and jobs (31 per cent). Climate change (5 per cent) and the carbon tax (3 per cent), lagged significantly. Amongst Coalition voters only three per cent nominated scrapping the carbon tax as their top issue.

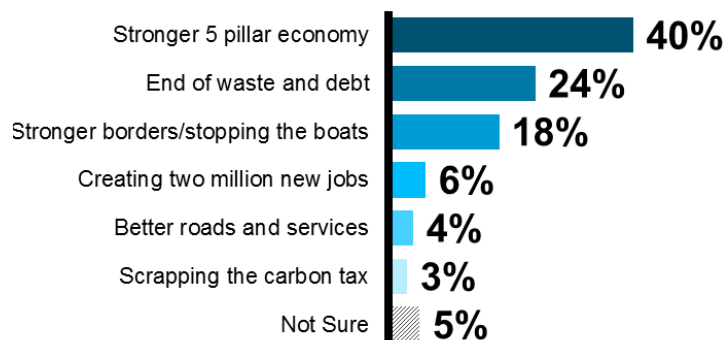
- Liberal/National and ALP voters named the economy as their main vote driver, with 40 per cent of Liberal/National and 22 per cent of ALP voters listed it as top priority. Equally as many (22 per cent) ALP voters listed healthcare and hospitals as top concern.
- For Green voters the top concern was action on climate change (23 per cent) followed by education (18 per cent), with the economy ranking lower.
- Independent voters were most concerned about cost of living (24 per cent) followed by healthcare and hospitals (18 per cent).

Which one issue was most important to you this election? (Sample=1591)



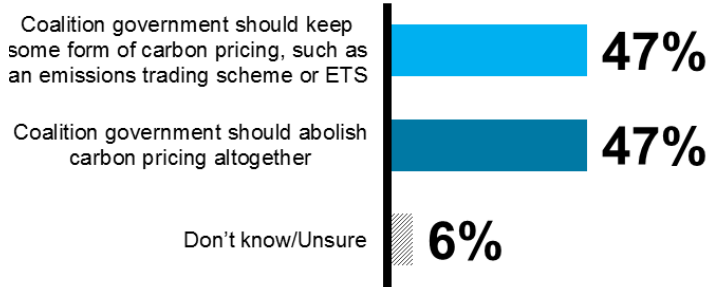
Asked separately about the Coalition's priorities, Coalition voters strongly backed a 'stronger five pillar economy' (40 per cent) and 'end of waste and debt' (24 per cent) with just (3 per cent) prioritising 'scrapping the carbon tax'.

In this election, the Liberal National Coalition campaigned on six specific policies. Which one of the following Coalition policies was most important to your vote? (Sample=771)



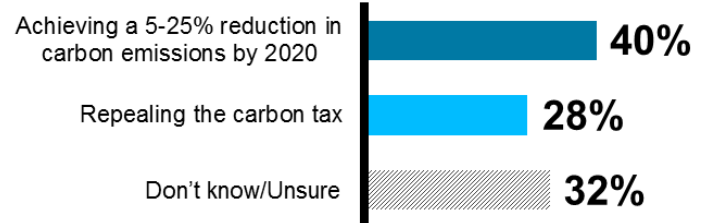
There was no majority support for repeal with voters split 47 per cent for repeal and 47 per cent for maintaining some form of carbon pricing when asked to choose between the two.

If the Liberal National Coalition is elected to government today, do you think they should abolish the carbon tax altogether or keep some form of carbon pricing, such as an emissions trading scheme or ETS? (Sample = 1591)



In a separate question asking all voters to choose between Coalition commitments to reduction targets and to repeal, 40 per cent supported the reductions, just 28 per cent supported repeal, with 32 per cent undecided.

Which of the following Liberal National Coalition election promises is more important to you – repealing the carbon tax or achieving a 5-25% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020? (Sample = 1591)



This poll was similar to others in that almost two thirds (63 per cent) accept that climate change is occurring.

Which of the following is closest to your opinion on climate change? (Sample = 1591)

