



Polling - Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT)

February 2024

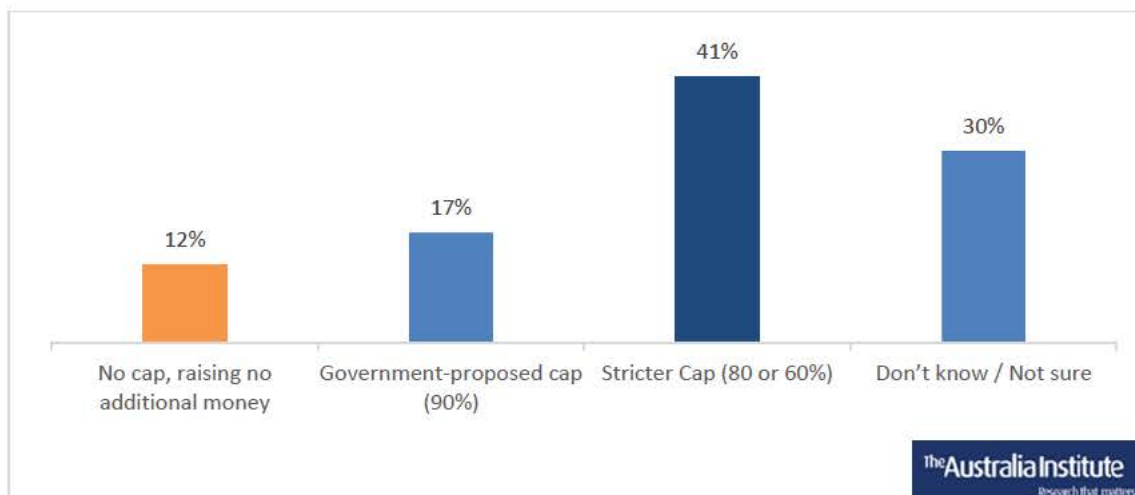
Key results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,017 Australians about their attitude toward the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT).

The results show that:

- Six in 10 Australians (58%) support capping how much expenses companies can deduct from the PRRT they pay.
- 41% of Australians prefer a stricter cap on the amount gas companies can deduct from the PRRT than what the government is proposing.
- Only one in six Australians (17%) prefers the government-proposed cap to stricter caps.
- 55% of Greens voters, 44% of Labor voters and 38% of Coalition voters favour a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
 - Only one in five Green voters, Labor voters and Coalition voters (19% for each) prefer the government-proposed cap to stricter caps.
- More than two in five (44%) in Western Australia and 38% of people in Queensland also prefer a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- Only 12% of Australians oppose introducing a PRRT cap of any kind.

Figure 1: Support for a cap on deductions on the PRRT



Respondents received the following prompt:

Gas companies are subject to the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) when they extract Australia's offshore gas resources. However, the PRRT raises little money because gas companies can deduct their expenses from the tax they pay. The Australian Government is proposing a cap on the amount they can deduct equal to 90% of their revenue, which would raise an additional \$601 million per year on average. Lower deduction caps would raise more money.

There were then asked to choose which response was closest to their view of what the deduction cap should be set to.

The PRRT is designed to be a tax on 'super-profits' (unusually high profit levels) received by the oil and gas industry. In practice, it allows companies to avoid paying tax by deducting expenses from their PRRT tax bill.

The Federal Government has proposed a 90% cap on the tax-deductible expenses for oil and gas companies can deduct. Consequently, the Greens and several independents are seeking to amend the government's proposal by lowering the cap to 80%.

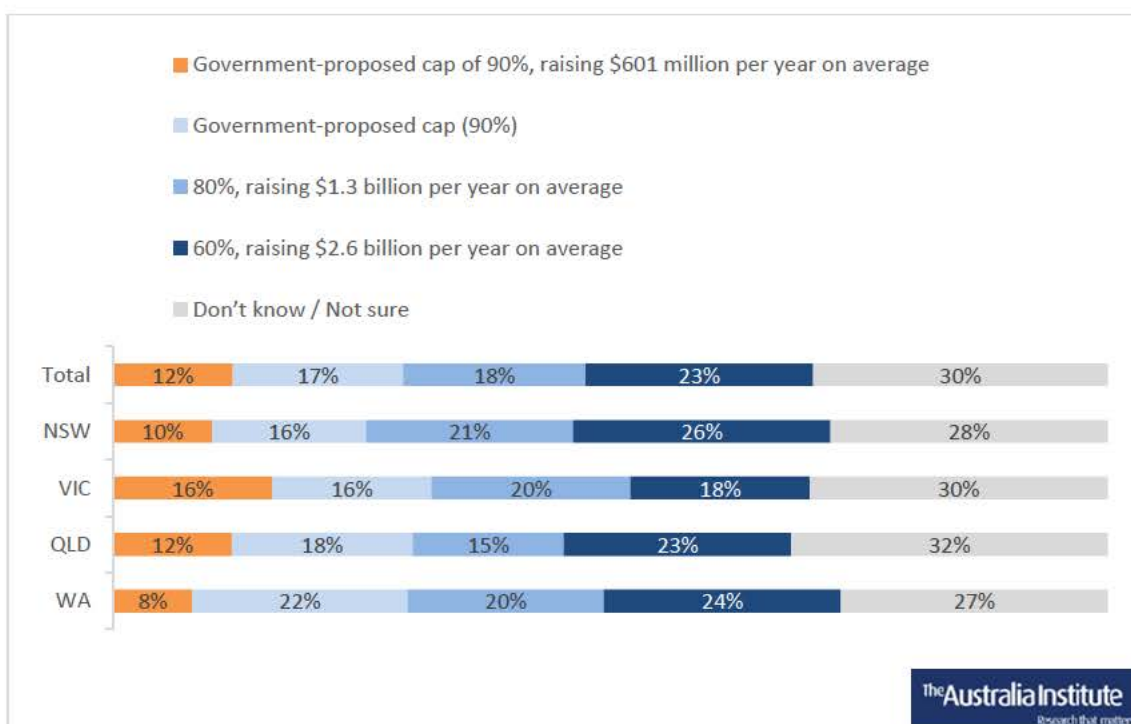
The results show that:

- Six in 10 Australians (58%) prefer capping how much expenses companies can deduct from the PRRT they pay.
- 41% of Australians prefer a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- Only 12% of Australians oppose introducing a cap of any kind.
- Three in 10 respondents (30%) answered that they did not know or were not sure. This is high for a policy question, and suggests that many Australians have not turned their minds to the PRRT.

Results by states show that:

- In New South Wales, only 17% of people favour the government’s proposition. Almost one in two people (47%) prefer a stricter cap on how much expenses companies can deduct from the PRRT they pay than what the government is proposing.
- In Western Australia, 22% of people favour the government’s proposition. More than two in five (44%) prefer a stricter cap.
- In Queensland and Victoria, one in six people prefer the government’s proposition. 38% of people prefer a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- In New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia, more choose the strictest deduction cap, which is 60%, than any other option (excluding the “Don’t know/Not sure” answer).

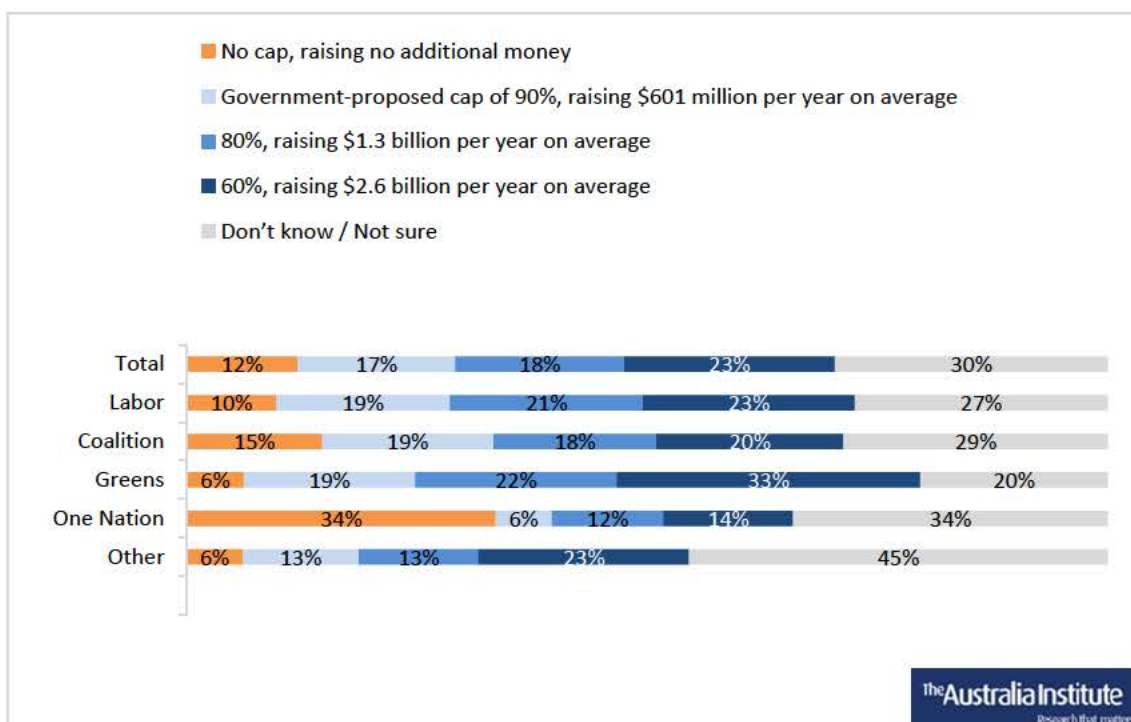
Figure 2: Support for a cap on deductions on the PRRT, by state



Results by voting intention show that:

- 55% of Greens voters, 44% of Labor voters and 38% of Coalition voters favour a stricter cap than what the government is proposing.
- Only one in five Green voters, Labor voters and Coalition voters (19% for each) prefer the government-proposed cap to stricter caps.
- When excluding the responses of those who “Don’t know/Not sure”, the most preferred option among Labor, Coalition, Greens and Other/Independent voters is for the highest deduction cap alternative of 60%.

Figure 3: Support for a cap on deductions on the PRRT, by voting intention



Method - national polling

Short disclosure statement

Research company	The Australia Institute
Client commissioning the research	NA
End client	NA
Fieldwork dates	23 January 2024 to 29 January 2024
Mode of data collection	Online recruited from research panel
Target population	Australian adults aged 18+
Sample size	1,017
Australian Polling Council compliant	Yes
Voting intention published	Yes
Long disclosure statement	See below

Long disclosure statement

Effective sample size after weighting applied	1004
Margin of error associated with effective sample size	±3%
Variables used in weighting	Age, gender, state or territory based on Australian Bureau of Statistics "National, state and territory population" data
Gender identity categorisation	Those who answered the gender identity question as "Non-binary", "I use a different term", or "Prefer not to answer" had their responses included with females for the purpose of reporting, due to constraints from weighting data availability
Weighting method used	Raking method
Full question text, responses categories and randomisation	See below
Source of online sample	Dynata's online panel
Positioning of voting intention questions in questionnaire	Immediately after demographics, before policy questions
How were undecided voters handled?	Respondents who answered "Don't know / Not sure" for voting intention were then asked a leaning question; these leanings are included in voting intention crosstabs
Method of calculating 2PP	NA
Voting intention categorisation	Voting crosstabs show voting intentions for the House of Representatives. "Coalition" includes separate responses for Liberal and National. "Other" refers to Independent/Other, and minor parties in cases where they were included in the voting intention but represent too small a sample to be reported separately in the crosstabs
Location results	Results are shown only for larger states



**Australian
Polling Council
Quality Mark**

Detailed results

No preceding questions in the poll are expected to have influenced the results of the questions published here.

Gas companies are subject to the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) when they extract Australia’s offshore gas resources. However, the PRRT raises little money because gas companies can deduct their expenses from the tax they pay.

The Australian Government is proposing a cap on the amount they can deduct equal to 90% of their revenue, which would raise an additional \$601 million per year on average. Lower deduction caps would raise more money.

Which is closest to your view of what the deduction cap should be set to?

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>VIC</i>	<i>QLD</i>	<i>WA</i>
No cap, raising no additional money	12%	16%	8%	10%	16%	12%	8%
90%, raising \$601 million per year on average	17%	17%	18%	16%	16%	18%	22%
80%, raising \$1.3 billion per year on average	18%	19%	18%	21%	20%	15%	20%
60%, raising \$2.6 billion per year on average	23%	27%	19%	26%	18%	23%	24%
Don’t know / Not sure	30%	21%	38%	28%	30%	32%	27%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Coalition</i>	<i>Greens</i>	<i>One Nation</i>	<i>Other</i>
No cap, raising no additional money	12%	10%	15%	6%	34%	6%
90%, raising \$601 million per year on average	17%	19%	19%	19%	6%	13%
80%, raising \$1.3 billion per year on average	18%	21%	18%	22%	12%	13%
60%, raising \$2.6 billion per year on average	23%	23%	20%	33%	14%	23%
Don't know / Not sure	30%	27%	29%	20%	34%	45%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>18–29</i>	<i>30–39</i>	<i>40–49</i>	<i>50–59</i>	<i>60+</i>
No cap, raising no additional money	12%	10%	11%	8%	15%	15%
90%, raising \$601 million per year on average	17%	17%	24%	18%	14%	14%
80%, raising \$1.3 billion per year on average	18%	26%	20%	18%	14%	14%
60%, raising \$2.6 billion per year on average	23%	19%	20%	23%	22%	27%
Don't know / Not sure	30%	27%	24%	33%	35%	29%