



Resolve Industry Briefing

Nuclear Power in Australia

October 2023



Summary Methodology

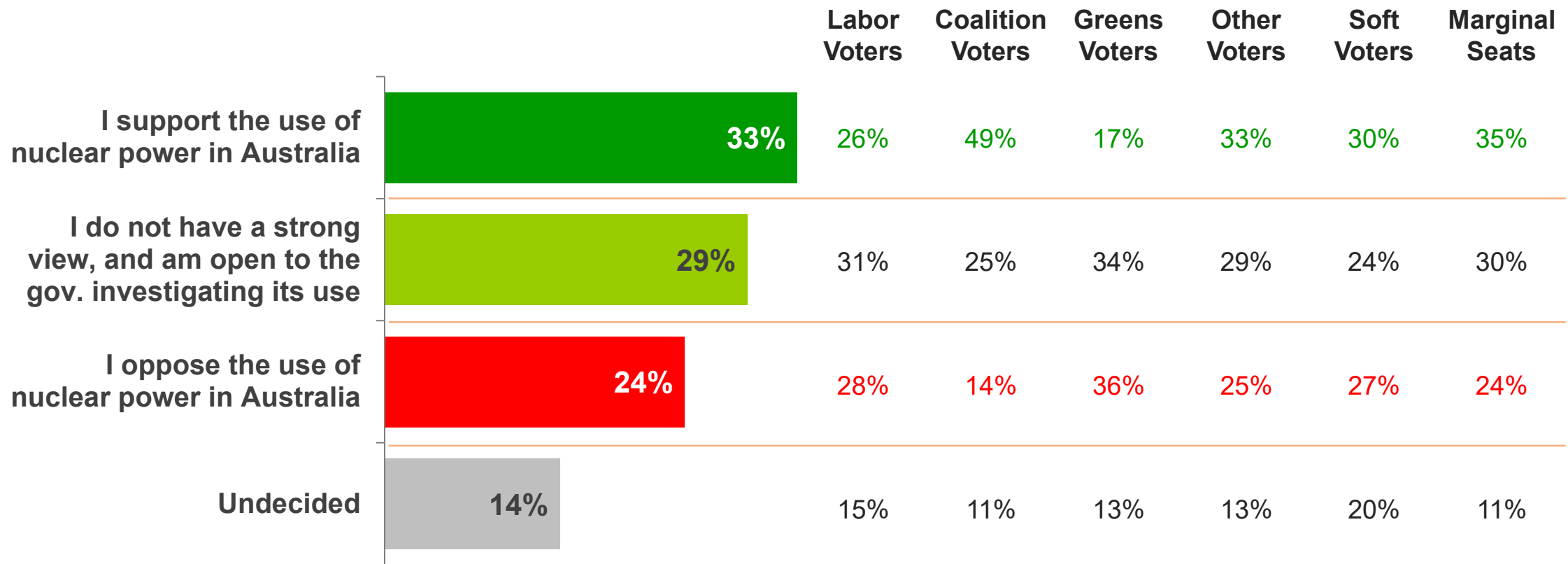
This briefing note outlines the results of a series of questions on the subject of nuclear power. It was conducted as part of the Resolve Political Monitor (RPM). The methodology was as follows:

- An on-line survey conducted 22nd September to 4th October 2023, achieving a larger than normal sample of n=4,728 adult Australians, with a notional maximum error margin of +/-1.4%.
- Used panel(s) primarily recruited by invitation off-line (random phone surveys, F2F, mail, etc.) to avoid inherent biases in self-selecting consumer panels and purely on-line recruitment.
- Respondents were not informed of the survey's topic(s) or publication prior to taking part to avoid response bias, e.g. a skew to more politically interested and/or informed voters seeking to send a public message.
- Detailed state-by-state quotas and weighting were employed for area, sex, age, education, income, marginal seats, etc., to ensure the sample truly reflected the population. Unless there are 'over-samples' of particular sub-groups of interest, any data weighting is minimal.
- Security and quality control checks were undertaken at all stages, including screening out 'bots'.
- Breakdowns may be provided by geo-demographic groups and voting blocs, but also the all-important marginal seats and uncommitted voter groups that will decide election outcomes, all with larger error margins.
- Where vote is reported and/or used for such breakdowns, primary voting intention is used. This is based on the '1' option in a fully ranked choice containing the most likely named candidates and parties in each area, and does not include the option of being 'undecided' (as per the ballot paper).
- Commentary of results may include the pollster's opinions, in turn based on breadth of historical experience.



Support for Nuclear Power

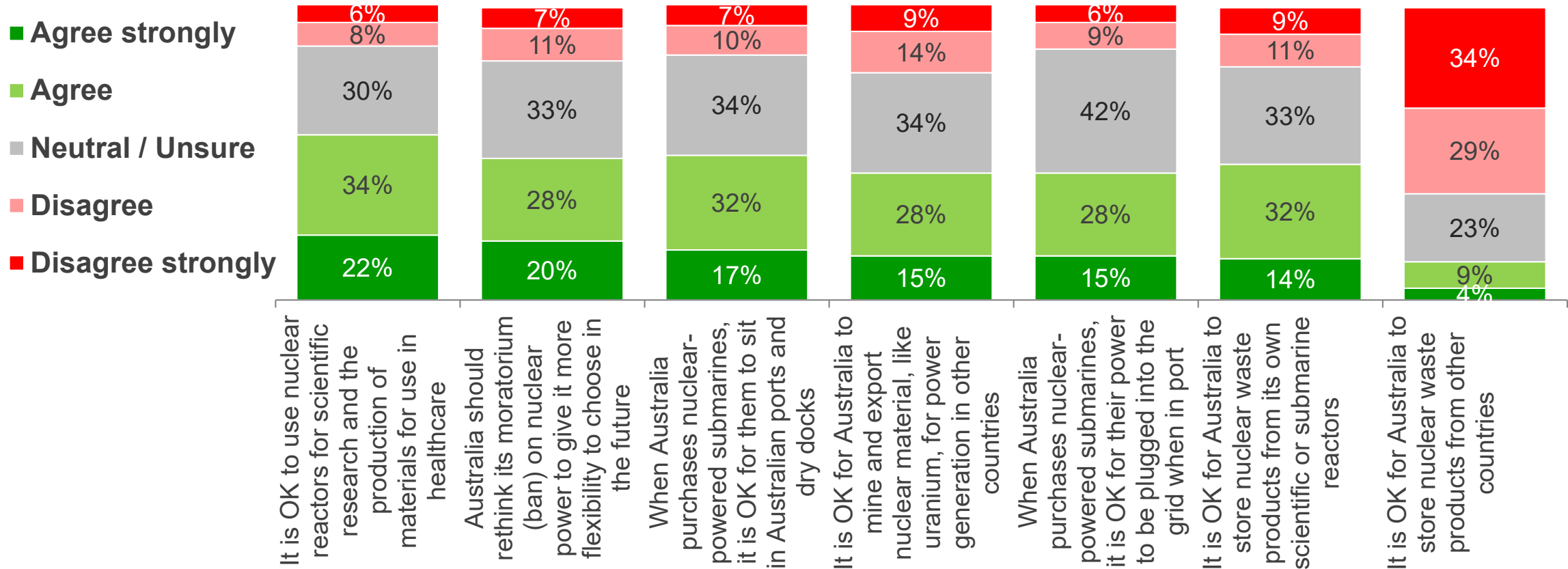
In the past, Resolve and other polls have measured binary support and opposition to nuclear power in Australia, often returning a split view that's weak in intensity. But if we also ask people whether they are open to a review, a majority across all voting blocs either support its use or investigating its use.



Q2808) There has been some debate about the use of nuclear power in Australia recently. Some people are opposed to its use because of safety concerns or because it is expensive to set-up, but others say that new, smaller reactors have been proved safe in nuclear submarines and have the ability to deliver emissions-free baseload power at existing power station sites to support renewables. What is your own view on the use of nuclear power in Australia? Base: All.

Nuclear Scenarios

Many people remain unsure about the use of nuclear in Australia in the various scenarios we put to them, and this is a subject on which views are not generally firm or entrenched. However, more support than oppose the use of nuclear in research and medicine, for powering submarines, to use that power in the grid and dispose of that waste, and in rethinking the moratorium more generally.





Support for a National Vote on Nuclear

Regardless of their views of nuclear power, just over half of Australians support holding a national vote (plebiscite) to settle the matter. This level of support outnumbers opposition three-to-one, with just under a third undecided (and likely disengaged). The only group where a majority did not support a vote was Greens voters, but even here support outpolls opposition two-to-one.

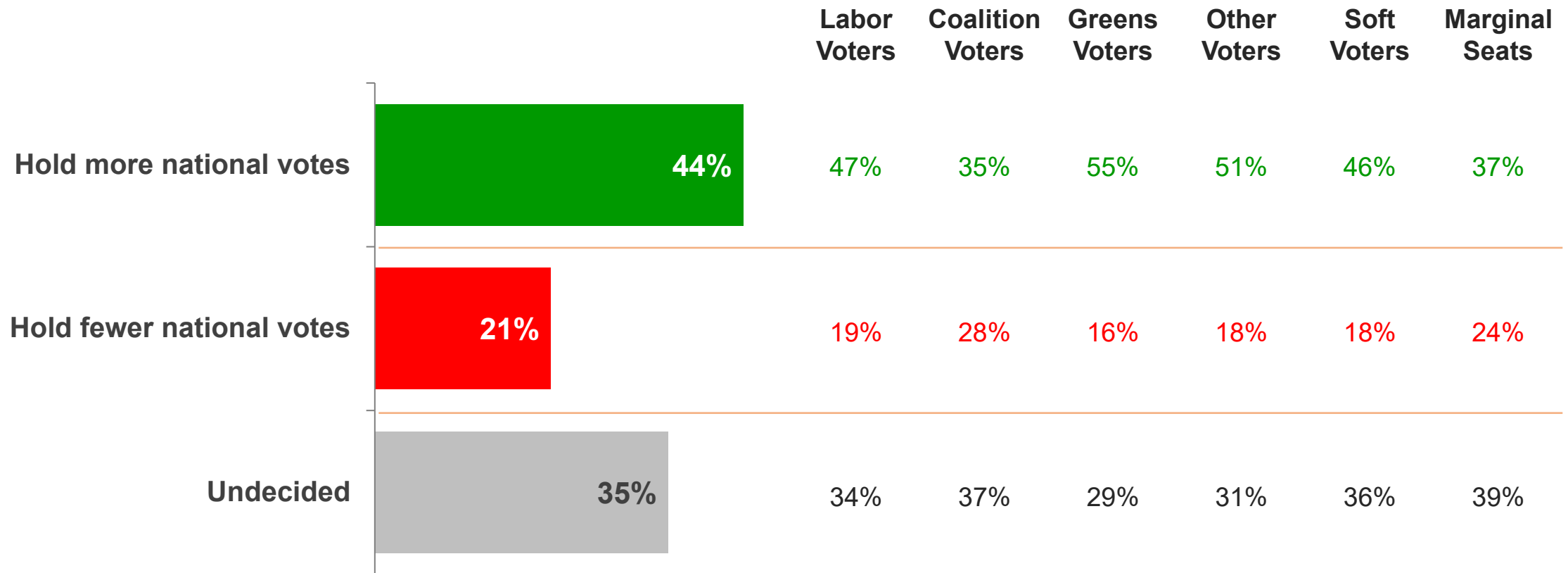
| | | Labor Voters | Coalition Voters | Greens Voters | Other Voters | Soft Voters | Marginal Seats |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| TOTAL SUPPORT | 53% | 50% | 58% | 42% | 59% | 51% | 49% |
| Strongly support | 22% | 17% | 28% | 14% | 26% | 22% | 16% |
| Support | 31% | 33% | 30% | 29% | 33% | 29% | 32% |
| TOTAL OPPOSE | 17% | 18% | 14% | 20% | 16% | 19% | 17% |
| Oppose | 12% | 12% | 11% | 12% | 10% | 15% | 14% |
| Strongly oppose | 5% | 6% | 3% | 8% | 6% | 4% | 3% |
| Undecided | 30% | 32% | 28% | 37% | 25% | 31% | 34% |

Q2921) In the 1990s, Australia placed a moratorium on the use of nuclear power, meaning that the production of electricity using nuclear material was banned. Some people suggest that keeping or repealing this ban is an important enough issue to hold a national vote. Regardless of your views on nuclear power, do you support or oppose a national vote being held on this issue in the future? Base: All.



The Future of National Votes

As background, this poll took place during the closing weeks of the Voice referendum campaign and, even in this febrile environment, we found far more Australians would like to see more of this sort of single-issue votes to decide important issues than to see fewer of them. It appears that direct democracy, as opposed to representative decisions, are somewhat popular in this roll.



Q2914) The current referendum is an example of a 'single issue' vote where voters are asked to give their views on a particular issue, policy or change. In addition to referendums, there are other types of national votes, such as plebiscites that are a simple, non-binding national vote that does not aim to change the Constitution, and on-line or postal surveys of all voters, like the same-sex marriage survey in 2017... What is your own preference on the use of 'single issue' votes, like referendums, plebiscites and surveys? Base: All.