



Resolve Subject Briefing

Immigration to Australia

October 2023



Summary Methodology

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

- An on-line survey conducted 29th September to 4th October 2023, achieving a sample of n=1,611 adult Australians, with a notional maximum error margin of +/-2.4%.
- 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.



Immigration Numbers

IMMIGRATION NUMBERS	Track 26 (Jul 2023)	Track 29 (Oct 23)	Labor Voters	Coalition Voters	Other Voters	Uncommit. Voters	Marginal Seats	Employed	Not Employed	Retired
Too high	59%	53%	42%	65%	58%	47%	52%	52%	43%	63%
About right	25%	30%	40%	21%	24%	31%	28%	32%	36%	22%
Too low	3%	3%	4%	2%	5%	6%	5%	4%	4%	3%
Undecided	13%	14%	14%	12%	14%	16%	16%	13%	17%	13%
Base (Unweighted)	1610	1611	583	512	426	331	453	1079	236	351
Base (Weighted)	1610	1611	600	492	435	323	452	993	295	390

Q2607) Permanent migration into Australia sat at around 160,000 people a year before COVID, but fell to negligible levels during 2020-2022. To make up for this, immigration is likely to reach 450,000 this year, though it will likely drop next year. Some people say that this will put extra pressure on housing and infrastructure, whereas others say it is essential for income, business and skills. Do you personally think these new levels of migration are...? Base: All.



Priority Immigration Groups

IMMIGRATION PRIORITIES	Track 8 (Nov 21)	Track 10 (Feb 22)	Track 26 (Jul 2023)	Track 29 (Oct 23)	Labor Voters	Coalition Voters	Other Voters	Uncommitted Voters	Marginal Seats
Immediate family members of existing residents, e.g. children, parents or siblings	54%	55%	41%	47%	48%	44%	52%	42%	43%
A partner of a resident, i.e. a long-term partner, fiancé, spouse	47%	49%	39%	45%	44%	43%	52%	43%	43%
Skilled workers	40%	42%	57%	56%	55%	61%	49%	56%	57%
Unskilled workers, including hospitality and agricultural workers	16%	18%	18%	15%	17%	15%	13%	12%	18%
Those who have studied in Australia	15%	14%	20%	17%	19%	18%	14%	22%	20%
Undecided	14%	12%	12%	9%	8%	10%	10%	12%	10%
Base (Unweighted)	1606	1604	1610	1611	583	512	426	331	453
Base (Weighted)	1606	1604	1610	1611	600	492	435	323	452

Q816) Regardless of the level of permanent migration, which TWO of the following groups do you think should receive priority? Base: All.

Effects of Higher Immigration

EFFECTS OF HIGHER IMMIGRATION	Access to health services, like GPs and hospitals	The economy	Addressing skills shortages	Social cohesion	Multi-cultural experiences, e.g. food, culture and language
TOTAL POSITIVE	23%	48%	59%	35%	70%
All positive	6%	9%	12%	6%	21%
Mostly positive	17%	39%	48%	29%	49%
Unsure	35%	32%	29%	39%	21%
TOTAL NEGATIVE	43%	20%	11%	26%	9%
Mostly negative	31%	14%	9%	19%	6%
All negative	11%	5%	3%	7%	3%
Base (Unweighted)	1611	1611	1611	1611	1611
Base (Weighted)	1611	1611	1611	1611	1611

EFFECTS OF HIGHER IMMIGRATION	Productivity	The higher education sector, e.g. universities	Access to affordable housing and rentals	Wage levels	Transport congestion
TOTAL POSITIVE	54%	44%	12%	24%	14%
All positive	9%	8%	3%	4%	3%
Mostly positive	45%	35%	9%	20%	11%
Unsure	34%	40%	26%	51%	32%
TOTAL NEGATIVE	12%	17%	62%	25%	54%
Mostly negative	8%	11%	38%	19%	39%
All negative	4%	5%	24%	6%	15%
Base (Unweighted)	1611	1611	1611	1611	1611
Base (Weighted)	1611	1611	1611	1611	1611

Q2916) Thinking about the current level of immigration to Australia, please tell us whether you think it will have a positive or negative effect in the following areas: Base: All.



Avoiding Recession Worth Immigration

AVOIDING RECESSION WORTH IMMIGRATION NUMBERS	Track 29 (Oct 23)	Labor Voters	Coalition Voters	Other Voters	Uncommitted Voters	Marginal Seats	Employed	Not Employed	Retired
TOTAL AGREE	34%	45%	30%	21%	37%	38%	36%	28%	34%
Agree strongly	7%	8%	7%	6%	11%	6%	7%	6%	6%
Agree	27%	37%	23%	15%	26%	33%	29%	22%	28%
Unsure	39%	37%	40%	45%	36%	40%	36%	49%	41%
TOTAL DISAGREE	27%	19%	30%	34%	27%	22%	28%	23%	25%
Disagree	19%	15%	22%	23%	24%	17%	21%	17%	16%
Strongly disagree	7%	3%	8%	11%	3%	5%	7%	6%	10%
Base (Unweighted)	1611	583	512	426	331	453	1079	236	351
Base (Weighted)	1611	600	492	435	323	452	993	295	390

Q2917) While Australia's economy is not currently in recession, i.e. the economy is still growing, it is in a 'per capita recession'. This means that the economic output per person is actually shrinking, but population growth is accounting for extra growth. Do you agree or disagree that population growth keeping Australia out of recession outweighs any negative effects of immigration? Base: All.