

NSW abortion law reform poll

September 2019

About this poll

This report presents the results of an online survey conducted in New South Wales.

The questionnaire was constructed by the ORU in consultation with the NSW Pro-Choice Alliance, Fair Agenda and social researcher Rebecca Huntley.

The ORU conducted the fieldwork and data collection.

The sample was selected randomly and was weighted to ABS Census data for region, age and gender.

The survey was in the field from the 30th August to the 4th September 2019.

The sample achieved was 1,018 people aged 18+ who voted at NSW's state election in March 2019.

About the ORU

The ORU have been conducting online research and providing online samples since 1999. They provide services to a wide range of Research Agencies, Universities, Government Departments and Corporate Clients.

The ORU is a member of the Australian Market & Social Research Society (AMSRS), European Society for Opinion and Marketing Research (ESOMAR) and Association of Market and Social Research Organisations (AMSRO).



QUESTION 1

Do you think NSW law should be changed so that seeking or performing an abortion is no longer a criminal offence?

	GENDER			AGE		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	18-34	35-54	55+
YES	77.3%	77.3%	77.3%	78%	75%	79%
NO	22.7%	22.7%	22.7%	22%	25%	21%

	VOTE AT LAST STATE ELECTION (LOWER HOUSE)						
	TOTAL	LIBERAL	NATIONAL	LABOR	GREEN	IND.	OTHER
YES	77.3%	71.6%	82.8%	82.3%	88%	79.4%	69.2%
NO	22.7%	28.4%	17.2%	17.7%	12%	20.6%	30.8%

QUESTION 2

If your representative in state parliament voted for abortion to remain a crime in NSW, would this make you more likely or less likely to vote for them in the future?

	GENDER			AGE		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	18-34	35-54	55+
MORE LIKELY	17.3%	17.2%	17.4%	20%	20.5%	13.2%
LESS LIKELY	47.9%	45.4%	50.5%	60.4%	48.2%	41.3%
VOTE UNCHANGED	34.8%	37.4%	32.1%	19.6%	31.3%	45.5%

	VOTE AT LAST STATE ELECTION (LOWER HOUSE)						
	TOTAL	LIBERAL	NATIONAL	LABOR	GREEN	IND.	OTHER
MORE LIKELY	17.3%	21.5%	15.5%	15.3%	5.3%	15.9%	16.9%
LESS LIKELY	47.9%	36.9%	48.3%	55.4%	72%	55.6%	46.2%
VOTE UNCHANGED	34.8%	41.6%	36.2%	29.3%	22.7%	28.6%	36.9%

QUESTION 3

Do you agree with the following statement - 'A patient should be provided with information about where they can receive unbiased advice and care about abortion, regardless of their doctor's moral beliefs on the matter'?

	GENDER			AGE		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	18-34	35-54	55+
STRONGLY AGREE	65.8%	64.2%	67.5%	69.3%	61.7%	67.4%
SOMEWHAT AGREE	19.4%	19.6%	19.3%	16.4%	23.1%	18%
NEUTRAL	10%	11.4%	8.7%	10.2%	11.3%	8.9%
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	1.4%	2.7%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	2.6%	2.7%	2.4%	1.8%	2.5%	3%
TOTAL AGREE	85.2%	83.8%	86.8%	85.7%	84.8%	85.4%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4.8%	4.9%	4.6%	4%	3.9%	5.7%

QUESTION 3 - Continued

Do you agree with the following statement - 'A patient should be provided with information about where they can receive unbiased advice and care about abortion, regardless of their doctor's moral beliefs on the matter'?

	VOTE AT LAST STATE ELECTION (LOWER HOUSE)						
	TOTAL	LIBERAL	NATIONAL	LABOR	GREEN	IND.	OTHER
STRONGLY AGREE	65.8%	59.1%	60.3%	70.4%	85.3%	73%	61.5%
SOMEWHAT AGREE	19.4%	24.6%	29.3%	15.9%	9.3%	9.5%	16.9%
NEUTRAL	10%	12.1%	6.9%	10.2%	2.7%	7.9%	9.2%
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	2.2%	2.4%	1.7%	1.8%	1.3%	0%	6.2%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	2.6%	1.9%	1.7%	1.8%	1.3%	9.5%	6.2%
TOTAL AGREE	85.2%	83.7%	89.6%	86.3%	94.6%	82.5%	78.4%
TOTAL DISAGREE	4.8%	4.3%	3.4%	3.2%	2.6%	9.5%	12.4%

QUESTION 4

Do you agree with the following statement - 'I don't think one person's religious beliefs should impact on another person's access to abortion'?

	GENDER			AGE		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	18-34	35-54	55+
STRONGLY AGREE	64.8%	63%	66.7%	62.7%	59.2%	70.5%
SOMEWHAT AGREE	16.4%	15.7%	17.2%	16%	21.4%	12.6%
NEUTRAL	11.7%	13.7%	9.7%	15.6%	12.3%	8.9%
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	2.9%	2.9%	3%	2.2%	2.8%	3.4%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	4.1%	4.7%	3.6%	3.5%	3.9%	4.6%
TOTAL AGREE	81.2%	78.7%	83.9%	78.7%	80.6%	83.1%
TOTAL DISAGREE	7%	7.6%	6.6%	5.7%	6.7%	8%

QUESTION 4 - Continued

Do you agree with the following statement - 'I don't think one person's religious beliefs should impact on another person's access to abortion'?

	VOTE AT LAST STATE ELECTION (LOWER HOUSE)						
	TOTAL	LIBERAL	NATIONAL	LABOR	GREEN	IND.	OTHER
STRONGLY AGREE	64.8%	57.7%	62.1%	70.7%	80%	71.4%	60%
SOMEWHAT AGREE	16.4%	18.9%	22.4%	15%	10.7%	11.1%	13.8%
NEUTRAL	11.7%	14.4%	13.8%	8.7%	5.3%	7.9%	18.5%
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	2.9%	4.5%	0%	2.1%	0%	1.6%	4.6%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	4.1%	4.5%	1.7%	3.6%	4%	7.9%	3.1%
TOTAL AGREE	81.2%	76.6%	84.5%	85.6%	90.7%	82.5%	73.8%
TOTAL DISAGREE	7%	9%	1.7%	5.7%	4%	9.5%	7.7%

QUESTION 5

Do you agree with the following statement - 'When a woman and her family are dealing with a devastating diagnosis related to a pregnancy, their treatment options should be guided first and foremost by medical experts and relevant healthcare guidelines'?

	GENDER			AGE		
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	18-34	35-54	55+
STRONGLY AGREE	66.3%	64.8%	67.8%	64%	61.7%	71.2%
SOMEWHAT AGREE	21.6%	21.1%	22.1%	21.8%	25.9%	18%
NEUTRAL	8.5%	10%	7.1%	12.9%	9.9%	5.3%
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	2.6%	2.9%	2.2%	0.9%	1.7%	4.1%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	1%	1.2%	0.8%	0.4%	0.8%	1.4%
TOTAL AGREE	87.9%	85.9%	89.9%	85.8%	87.6%	89.2%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3.6%	4.1%	3%	1.3%	2.5%	5.5%

QUESTION 5 - Continued

Do you agree with the following statement - ‘When a woman and her family are dealing with a devastating diagnosis related to a pregnancy, their treatment options should be guided first and foremost by medical experts and relevant healthcare guidelines’?

	VOTE AT LAST STATE ELECTION (LOWER HOUSE)						
	TOTAL	LIBERAL	NATIONAL	LABOR	GREEN	IND.	OTHER
STRONGLY AGREE	66.3%	61%	63.8%	71%	74.7%	76.2%	60%
SOMEWHAT AGREE	21.6%	26.2%	32.8%	18%	12%	9.5%	23.1%
NEUTRAL	8.5%	10.2%	1.7%	7.2%	10.7%	11.1%	6.2%
SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	2.6%	2.1%	1.7%	2.4%	1.3%	1.6%	9.2%
STRONGLY DISAGREE	1%	0.5%	0%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%
TOTAL AGREE	87.9%	87.2%	96.6%	89%	86.7%	85.7%	83.1%
TOTAL DISAGREE	3.6%	2.6%	3.4%	3.9%	2.8%	3.2%	10.7%