

Polling - Regulation of fish farming

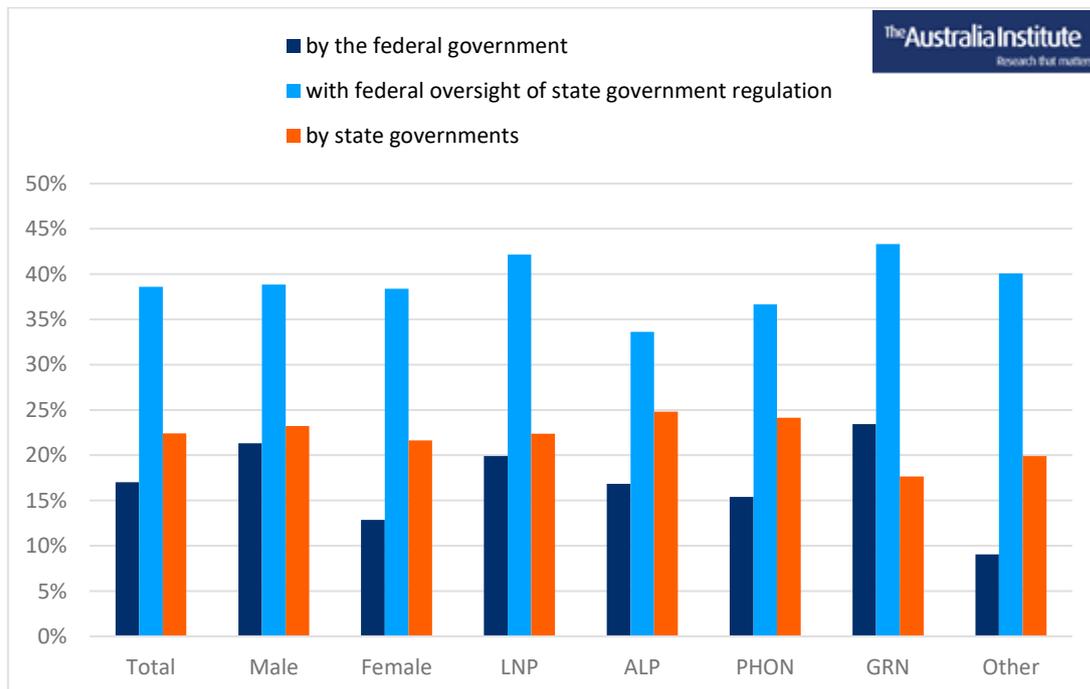
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Key Results

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,536 Australians about fish farm regulation.

The survey told respondents that large scale fish farms are currently assessed and regulated by state governments, not the federal government. They were then asked who should assess and regulate fish farms.

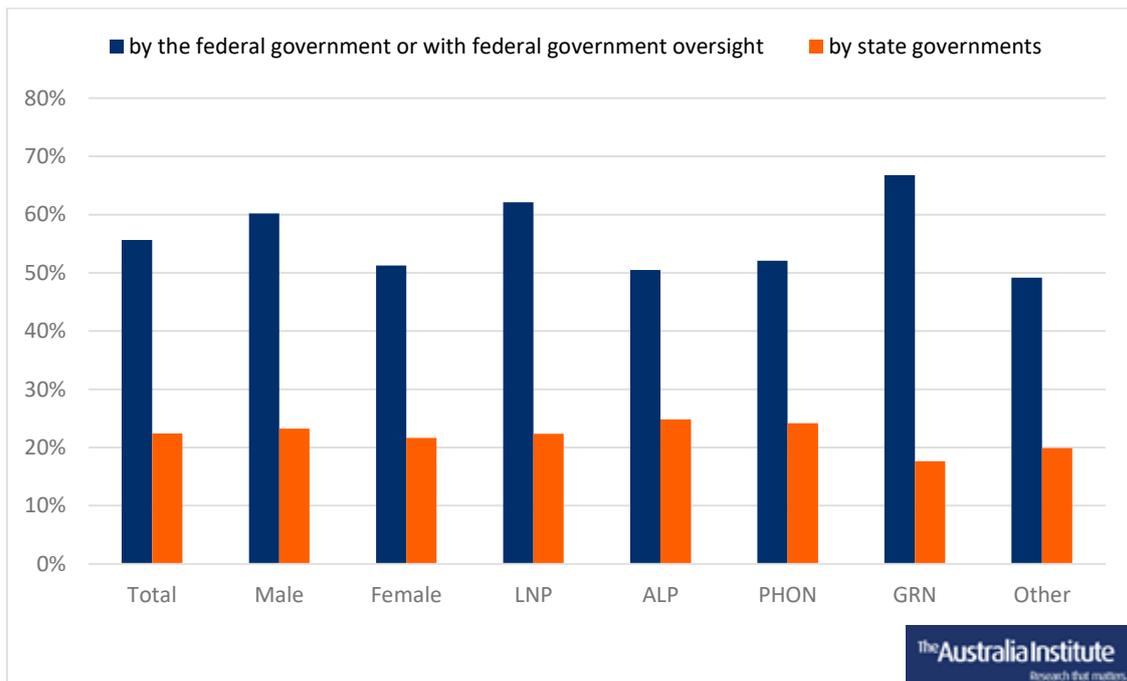
Figure 1: Environmental impacts of large-scale fish farms should be assessed and regulated ...



- More respondents supported federal oversight of state government regulation (39%) than any other option.
 - Federal oversight was the most popular option among men and women, voters of each political party, and in each state.

- Assessment and regulation by state governments (the status quo) was second most popular, at 22%.
- Assessment by the federal government was supported by 17% of respondents.
- Overall, one-fifth of respondents (22%) didn't know or weren't sure.
- LNP and Greens voters were most likely to support federal government regulation (20% and 23% respectively) and least likely to select "Don't know / Not sure" (16% each), but in both cases were most likely to support federal oversight of state government regulation. ALP voters were most likely to select state government regulation (25%).
- There is majority support for a significant role for the federal government in the regulation of fish farms.

Figure 2: Environmental impacts of large-scale fish farms should be assessed and regulated ...



- Over half of respondents (56%) support either regulation by the federal government or federal oversight of state government regulation, compared to 22% who support state government regulation.
- Over half of Coalition, Labor and One Nation voters support an increased role for federal government, as do over two-thirds of Greens voters (67%).

Method

The Australia Institute conducted a national survey of 1,536 people between 20 February 2019 and 4 March 2019, online through Dynata (formerly Research Now), with nationally representative samples by gender, age and state and territory, and results further post-weighted by gender.

Results are shown only for larger states.

Voting crosstabs show voting intentions for the lower house. Those who were undecided were asked which way they were leaning; these leanings are included in voting intention crosstabs, but results are also shown separately for undecideds. “LNP” includes separate responses for Liberal and National. “Other” includes Centre Alliance, United Australia Party and Independent/Other.

Detailed results

Environmental assessment and regulation of large scale fish farms is currently done by state governments, not the federal government.

What role if any should federal governments have?

Environmental impacts of large scale fish farms should be assessed and regulated

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>LNP</i>	<i>ALP</i>	<i>PHON</i>	<i>GRN</i>	<i>Other</i>
by the federal government	17%	21%	13%	20%	17%	15%	23%	9%
by state governments	22%	23%	22%	22%	25%	24%	18%	20%
with federal oversight of state government regulation	39%	39%	38%	42%	34%	37%	43%	40%
Don't know / Not sure	22%	17%	27%	16%	25%	24%	16%	31%

	<i>Total</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>
by the federal government	17%	17%	18%	16%	17%
by state governments	22%	26%	19%	21%	26%
with federal oversight of state government regulation	39%	39%	36%	42%	37%
Don't know / Not sure	22%	19%	27%	21%	20%