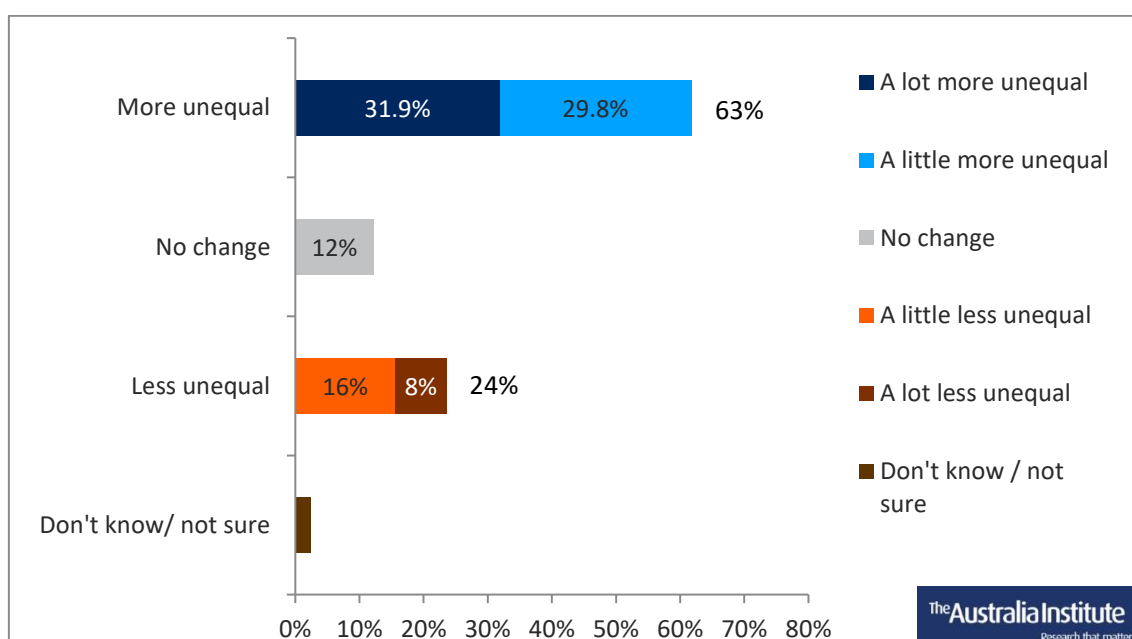


Polling - Inequality

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,449 Australians about inequality in August 2018.

The respondents were asked first about whether, over the past ten years, Australian society has become more or less equal (Figure 1), and whether the Australian government should do more or less, or indeed nothing about inequality (Figure 2).

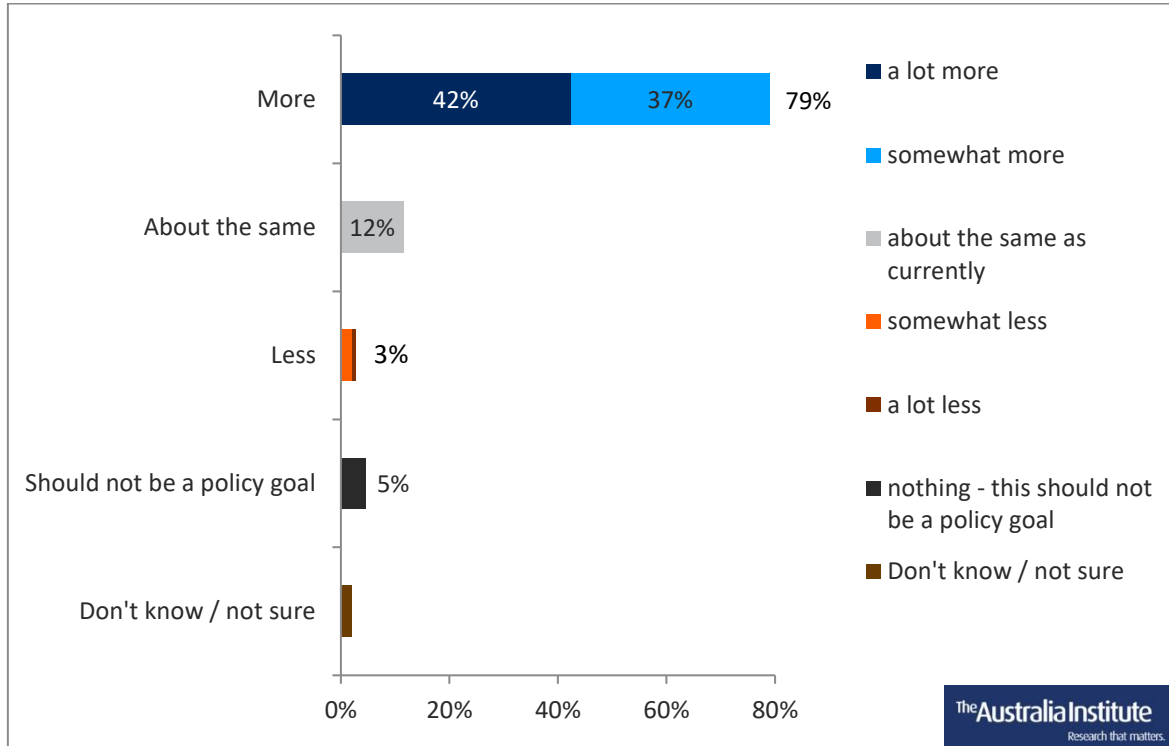
Figure 1 - Over the past ten years, do you think Australian society has become...?



Source: The Australia Institute, nationally representative poll of 1,449 in August 2018.

- 63% said Australian society has become more unequal over the last decade, including 32% who said it had become *a lot* more unequal.
- 24% said Australia had become less unequal.
- 12% said there had been no change.
- A majority of voters for all parties thought Australia has become more unequal.
 - Minor party voters were most likely to say Australia has become more unequal (68%) and LNP voters were least likely (56%)
 - One Nation voters were most likely to say Australia had become *a lot* more unequal (44%), followed by minor party voters (39%).

Figure 2 - Should the Australian government be doing more or less to reduce economic inequality in Australian society?



Source: The Australia Institute, nationally representative poll of 1,449 in August 2018.

- 79% of respondents said the Australian government should do more to reduce inequality, including 42% who said it should a lot more.
- 12% said the government should do about the same as currently.
- Only 3% said the Australian government should do less.
- Only 5% said this should not be a policy goal for the government.

- Two thirds or more of voters for every party said the government should do more - including voters for LNP (67%), PHON (69%) and Other (76%).
 - One Nation voters were most likely to say reducing inequality should not be a policy goal (11%).
 - LNP voters were most likely to say the government should do about as much as currently (20%).

Method

The Australia Institute conducted a national survey about inequality of 1,449 people 3 August and 15 August 2018, online through Research Now, with nationally representative samples by gender, age and state and territory.

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

These questions are about wealth and income inequality in Australia.

Over the past ten years, do you think Australian society has become

	Total	Male	Female	NSW	Qld	Vic	SA	WA
Total more unequal	62%	62%	61%	61%	60%	60%	70%	62%
Total less unequal	24%	21%	26%	25%	25%	24%	18%	22%
A lot more unequal	32%	32%	32%	33%	34%	30%	32%	28%
A little more unequal	30%	30%	29%	28%	26%	30%	37%	34%
No change	12%	15%	9%	12%	11%	13%	11%	11%
A little less unequal	16%	13%	18%	17%	15%	17%	14%	13%
A lot less unequal	8%	8%	8%	8%	10%	7%	4%	10%
Don't know / not sure	2%	2%	3%	2%	4%	2%	1%	5%

	LNP	ALP	GRN	PHON	Other	Undec
Total more unequal	56%	65%	63%	59%	68%	56%
Total less unequal	25%	23%	23%	28%	20%	24%
A lot more unequal	22%	35%	35%	44%	39%	25%
A little more unequal	34%	30%	28%	15%	29%	30%
No change	17%	9%	10%	10%	10%	13%
A little less unequal	17%	15%	18%	12%	15%	17%
A lot less unequal	8%	8%	5%	17%	6%	7%
Don't know / not sure	2%	3%	4%	3%	2%	7%

Should the Australian government be doing more or less to reduce economic inequality in Australian society?

On inequality, the Australian government should be doing

	Total	Male	Female	NSW	Qld	Vic	SA	WA
Total more	79%	77%	81%	80%	79%	78%	77%	82%
Total less	3%	4%	2%	2%	3%	5%	1%	1%
a lot more	42%	41%	44%	47%	43%	40%	43%	37%
somewhat more	37%	36%	38%	33%	36%	38%	35%	44%
about the same as currently	12%	14%	9%	11%	11%	12%	17%	10%
somewhat less	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	4%	1%	1%
a lot less	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%
nothing - this should not be a policy goal	5%	4%	5%	5%	6%	3%	3%	5%
Don't know / not sure	2%	1%	3%	2%	1%	2%	3%	3%

	LNP	ALP	GRN	PHON	Other	Undec
Total more	67%	88%	95%	69%	76%	78%
Total less	4%	2%	1%	3%	4%	3%
a lot more	27%	48%	62%	50%	44%	36%
somewhat more	40%	39%	33%	19%	32%	43%
about the same as currently	20%	7%	3%	12%	10%	8%
somewhat less	3%	1%	1%	2%	4%	1%
a lot less	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	2%
nothing - this should not be a policy goal	7%	1%	1%	11%	8%	7%
Don't know / not sure	2%	1%	1%	6%	2%	3%