



## Polling - attitudes towards renewable energy in the Hunter

[Renew Australia for All](#) commissioned research firm 89 Degrees East to conduct polling on the shift to a renewable-powered economy nationally and in Renewable Energy Zones, including 373 residents in the Hunter region. The key results for the Hunter region show that:

- **71% of Hunter residents think Australia will benefit from shifting to renewable energy**, 67% think investing in renewable energy will be good for regional Australia, and 67% support the Australian government investing more in renewable energy.
- **73% of Hunter residents see renewables and batteries as the fastest way to bring down our energy bills**, compared to 14% for nuclear reactors and 9% for building new coal power stations.
- **Only 9% of Hunter residents oppose Australia shifting to renewable energy**, compared to 68% who support the shift.

Table 1: Hunter residents back more government investment in renewables & think regions will benefit

Q: Do you agree or disagree with the following?								
	TOTAL DISAGREE	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly agree	TOTAL AGREE	Don't know
Australia overall will benefit if we shift to more renewable energy	12%	6%	6%	16%	34%	37%	71%	1%
Investing in renewable energy will be good for regional Australia	12%	7%	5%	18%	34%	33%	67%	3%
I support the Australian government investing more in renewable energy	14%	8%	6%	17%	36%	31%	67%	2%

Table 2: Hunter residents think renewables & batteries will lower their bills fastest

Q: Which energy system changes do you think would lower people's power bills fastest?	
	Hunter (n=373)
Building more large-scale renewable energy, like wind and solar, with battery storage	28%
More subsidies for household rooftop solar and batteries	29%
Building nuclear energy reactors	14%
Big battery storage, to reduce demand on the grid at peak times e.g. In the evening	16%
Building new coal power stations	9%
Other	4%

Table 3: Hunter residents' attitudes on household solar & battery subsidies vs costs

<b>Q: For each pair of statements below, choose the one that is closest to your view</b>	
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Hunter (n=373)</b>
The government should subsidise rooftop solar and batteries for Australian households because it's the best and fastest way to bring down our energy bills.	77%
The government should not subsidise rooftop solar and batteries because it won't bring down energy bills and will only push up debt, inflation and interest rates.	23%

Table 4: 68% of Hunter residents support Australia shifting to renewable energy, 9% oppose

<b>Q: To what extent do you support or oppose Australia's shifting to renewable energy?</b>	
	<b>Total % (Very / Quite positive)</b>
<b>Total support</b>	<b>68%</b>
Strongly support	28%
Support	40%
Neither support or oppose	23%
Oppose	5%
Strongly oppose	4%
<b>Total oppose</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Methodology

The survey was administered online with recruitment sourced through a quality consumer opt-in panel, Pure Profile, providing access to over 1 million Australians.

This research was conducted by research firm 89 Degrees East, as part of a poll with a total sample size of 3,766 Australians, including a nationally representative poll of 2,004 Australians, with additional boost sampling of 1,762 Australians in renewable energy zones.

The Hunter result is an n = 373 sample of people living in the Hunter region aged 18+, using a high-quality consumer opt-in panel provided by Pure Profile. Recruitment was designed to ensure representative coverage of residents within the Hunter zones, with targeted sampling boosts to enhance data reliability.

The confidence level of the general population sample is +/- 2.08% at the 95% confidence level. Fieldwork was conducted by 89 Degrees East between Thursday, 8 August, and Wednesday, 21 August 2024. 89 Degrees East is a member of the Australian Polling Council.

## Media inquiries

For further information on the Hunter polling and Renew Australia for All in the Hunter, contact Teresa at 0413 216 412.

For further information on the Renew Australia for All coalition see [renewaustraliaforall.org](https://renewaustraliaforall.org) or contact Catalina on 0421 547 759