

Australia  
ISSP 2017 –  
Social Networks and Social Resources  
Study Description

2019-04-18

## ISSP Study Description Form

***Please use this form for reporting on Module 2006 and later!***

*Study title:* Australian Survey of Social Attitudes

*Fieldwork dates:* 2017-05-29 to 2018-04-10

*Principal investigators:* Betsy Blunsdon, Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research, Incorporated  
Ann Evans, Australian National University  
Steven McEachern, Australian National University  
Nicola McNeil, Latrobe University

*Sample type:* One-stage systematic random sample

*Fieldwork institute:* Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research, Incorporated

*Fieldwork methods:* Mail (SC, mailed to, mailed back by Respondent)

*N. of respondents:* 1317

*Details about issued sample:*

Please follow the standards laid down in AAPOR Standard Definitions:  
[http://www.aapor.org/AAPOR\\_Main/media/publications/Standard-Definitions20169theditionfinal.pdf](http://www.aapor.org/AAPOR_Main/media/publications/Standard-Definitions20169theditionfinal.pdf)  
The numbers in the parentheses are those used in Tables 2 and 3 of Standard Definitions.

1. Total number of starting or issued names/addresses (gross sample size) *	5000
2. Interviews (1.0)	1317
3. Eligible, Non-Interview	3406
A. Refusal/Break-off (2.10)	.....
B. Non-Contact (2.20)	.....
C. Other	
i. Language Problems (2.33)	.....
ii. Miscellaneous Other (2.31, 2.32, 2.35)	.....
4. Unknown Eligibility, Non-Interview (3.0)	0
5. Not Eligible	277
A. Not a Residence (4.50)	.....
B. Vacant Residence (4.60)	.....
C. No Eligible Respondent (4.70)	.....
D. Other (4.10,4.90)	.....

\* When new sample units are added during the field period via a new dwelling units list or other standard updating procedure, these additional issued units are added to the starting number of units to make up the total gross sample size. Also, when substitution is used, the total must include the originally drawn cases plus all substitute cases.

*Language(s):* English

*Weight present:* Yes

*Weighting procedure:* A post-stratification or non-response weight was calculated with the aim of rebalancing the Australian sample so the weighted sample frequencies are equal to the expected frequencies in population in a the three-way tabulation by age group (five groups), sex, and highest level of education (five levels) .  
The cross tabulation by age, sex and highest level of education from

the Australian population was done using the 2016 Census Table Builder. A table was created using sex and age (single years) in the rows, and Australian Citizenship, and education in the columns. The final table was created by excluding those who did not have Australian citizenship (this included those who did not state their citizenship). Individuals with no stated year of schooling and schooling up to and including year 12 were combined into one category.

In the sample not all individuals had complete information on both age, sex and year of schooling. However imputations of weight were used to deal so that all individuals were assigned a weight even if they had missing data.

When age was missing, in some cases, this was imputed from other information available in the questionnaire. If age was missing but the person was retired, the respondent's age was estimated to be equal to the mean for retired people of that sex. For people who were missing on gender, they had a weight allocated to them that was the average of the weights over gender for their level of education and age. To avoid extreme weights, the weights were trimmed at the 1 per cent and 99 per cent level, before being rescaled so that they averaged to one across all cases in each subsample.

*Known systematic  
properties of sample:*

Gross sample

Using a sampling frame derived from the AEC Electoral Roll (2016) excludes permanent and temporary residents of Australia (who are not citizens) and any other adults in Australia who are non-citizens except for British subjects on a Commonwealth electoral roll as at 25 January 1984. These exclusions amount to approximately 8 percent of the adult population. Citizens are able to provisionally enrol at the age of 17 but are unable to vote until they turn 18.

Net sample

The sample demographics were compared with statistics available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) including the 2016 Census. The major biases are: age (median age is older than the Census population), education (under-representation of persons who had only completed year 10 or below).

*Deviations from ISSP  
questionnaire:  
Publications:*

None

None