

Assignment of Questions to smartspider Axes

1st September 2020

smartspider methodology

The smartspider graph consists of six axes each representing a specific policy or a political goal. Questions can be assigned to none, one or several axes. The code “1” indicates that answering a question with “yes” will move the answering voter, candidate towards the goal on the specific axis (moving towards the edge) – a “no” answer will subsequently move the position in these cases in the opposite direction (towards the centre).

The code “-1” indicates a situation vice versa: The “no” answer will stand for a movement towards the specific political goal (moving outwards) and the “yes” answer will lead to a movement towards the centre on the axis.

The code “0” indicates that the specific question is not assigned to an axis.

smartvote Australia fulfills the transparency and quality criteria of the "Lausanne Declaration on Online Electoral Assistance". All the methodological information is available on www.smartvote.org.au.

For more information, do not hesitate to contact smartvote@anu.edu.au.

Question assignment for smartvote Australia ACT 2020 election:

Categories and Questions		smartspider Axes					
Housing, Land Planning & Infrastructure		Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
1	Should the government release more land to build houses in the ACT?	0	1	0	0	0	-1
2	Should Stage 2 of Canberra's light rail system commence as soon as possible?	0	-1	0	0	1	1
3	Is it necessary to relax heritage protections of buildings to promote development in the ACT?	0	1	0	-1	0	0
4	Should landlords be prohibited from evicting a tenant without cause?	0	-1	0	0	1	0
5	Do you think increasing the ACT's population is needed for our economic growth?	0	1	0	-0	0	-1
Social Policy		Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
6	Should childcare be free for parents regardless of their income?	0	-1	0	0	1	0
7	Do you think the ACT government should have prohibited the Black Lives Matter public demonstrations during the COVID-19 pandemic?	-1	0	1	1	0	0
8	Should there be tighter regulations of pokie machines?	0	-1	0	0	0	0
9	Should the government close schools with low enrolments?	0	0	0	0	-1	0

Tax & the Economy		Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
10	Do you support the replacement of the stamp duty with higher rates?	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Should unemployment benefits be reduced to their pre-COVID-19 pandemic level, once the crisis is over?	0	0	0	0	-1	0
12	Is reducing government debt currently the most important economic issue facing the ACT?	0	1	0	0	0	0
13	Do you think that a high number of job losses is acceptable if it can protect public health?	0	-1	0	0	0	0

Political System		Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
14	Should property developers be allowed to donate to political parties and candidates?	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Should elected politicians delegate more decision-making powers to chief health officers during public health crises?	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Should the ACT Integrity Commissioner have oversight over ACT Policing?	0	0	-1	0	0	0
17	Do you think there should be more limitations on the ACT government's ability to deploy mandatory lockdowns in response to public health threats?	0	1	-1	0	0	0

Society		Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
18	Do you think that women should readily be able to obtain an abortion if they request one?	0	0	0	-1	0	0
19	Should churches have the right to refuse to administer same-sex marriages?	-1	0	0	1	0	0
20	Do you think that terminally ill patients should be able to end their lives with medical assistance?	0	0	0	-1	0	0
21	Should pill testing at music festivals be prohibited in the ACT?	0	0	1	0	0	0
22	Should the ACT government accept Commonwealth funding for Christian chaplains in public schools?	0	0	0	1	0	0

Energy & Environment		Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
23	Should there be more car-free areas in the ACT?	0	0	0	0	0	1
24	Should the ACT relax its net zero carbon emissions target?	0	1	0	0	0	-1
25	Are the worsening bushfire seasons a direct result of human-induced climate change?	0	0	0	0	0	1

	Justice	Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
26	Should people who break the law be given stiffer sentences?	0	0	1	0	0	0
27	Should the recreational use of marijuana by adults be a criminal offence?	0	0	1	0	0	0
28	Do you think Indigenous Australians who break the law should be offered alternative sentencing?	1	0	-1	-1	0	0

	Budget*	Inclusivity	Economic Liberalism	Law & Order	Traditionalism	Welfare State	Environmental Protection
	For the next five questions, please say whether there should be more or less public expenditure than now in each of the following areas. Remember if you say 'more' it could require a tax increase, and if you say 'less' it could require a reduction in those services.						
29	Policing	0	0	1	0	0	0
30	Multicultural and inclusion programs	1	0	0	-1	0	0
31	Roads	0	0	0	0	0	-1
32	Public housing	0	-1	0	0	1	0

* For budget questions the answer categories are ordered from spending "Much less" to "Much more". The code "1" indicates for these questions that spending "Much more" moves one's score towards the specific policy goal (outwards).