A satellite night view of Australia, showing the continent's outline and a dense network of city lights and roads. The lights are concentrated in the eastern and southern coastal regions, with a few smaller clusters in the interior.

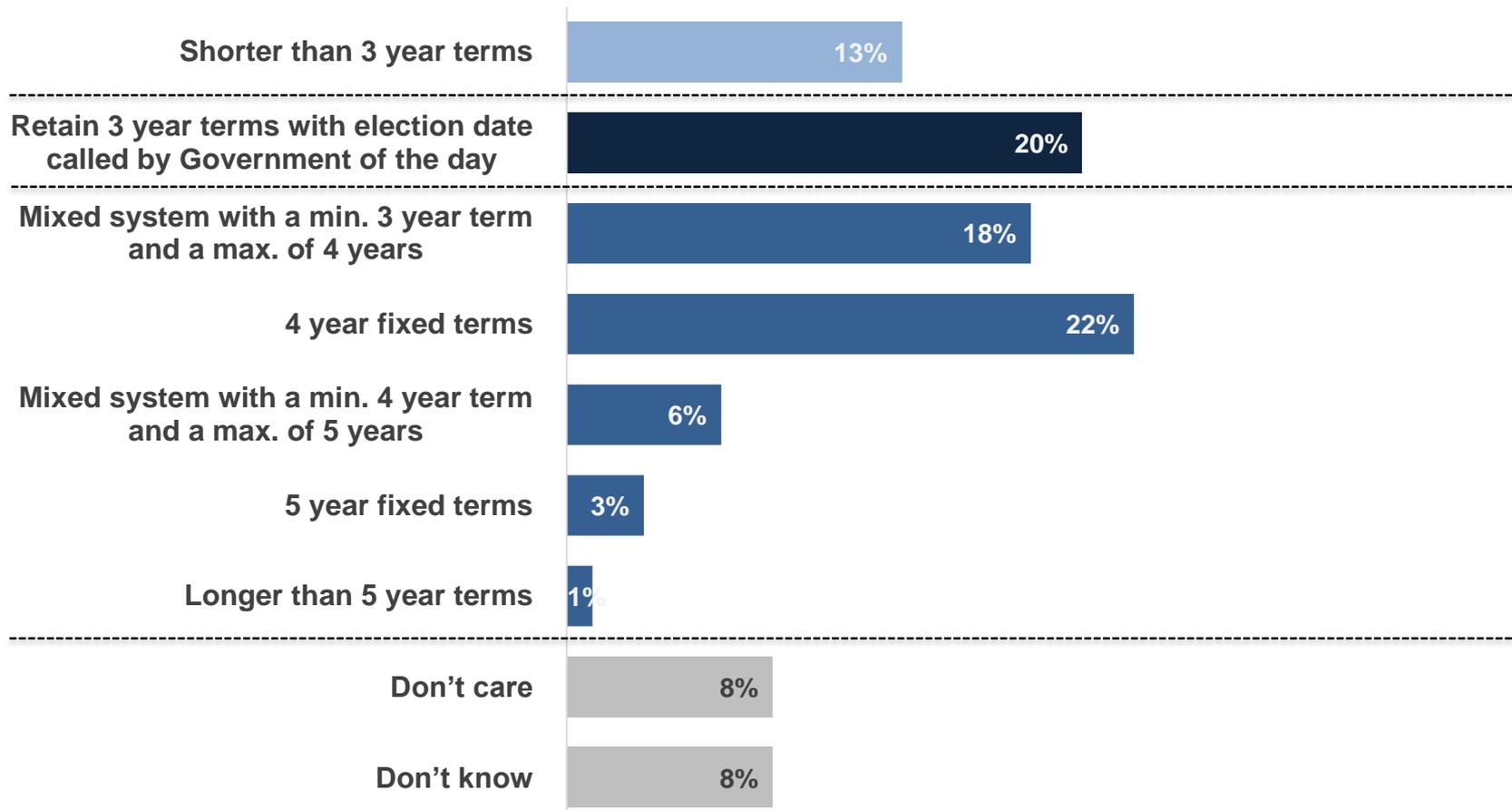
FEDERAL PARLIAMENTARY TERMS SURVEY MARCH 2017

4 YEAR FIXED OR MAXIMUM TERMS ARE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES TO THREE YEAR TERM FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- Recently, Federal Liberal MP David Coleman released a draft bill to move the House of Representatives to four year fixed terms. When presented with this and other possible scenarios for Parliamentary terms, more Australians (22%) supported the fixed four year option than retaining the current three year flexible term with the election date called by the Government of the day (20%).
- Preference for a *fixed* four year term (22%) is slightly stronger than for a set term of a *minimum* of three years and a *maximum* of four years (18%), although on a combined basis the results show there is certainly a clear preference for a move to longer terms over the current arrangement.
- Other possible scenarios of shorter than three year terms or longer than four year terms receive far less support, with 13% opting for a term less than three years and only 10% in total preferring options ranging beyond four years up to five years or more. Notably, 16% are either not sure (8%) or don't care about any of the options (8%), with women and students the least decisive or caring.
 - There is significantly higher support for four year fixed terms amongst those aged 55+ years (34% cf 22% overall) and significantly higher support for less than three year terms amongst 35-54 year olds (19% cf 10% overall).
- Those who prefer a term longer than the current three years were presented with the additional information that this would likely lead to an extension for the Upper House, with the Senate term likely needing to be double that of the House of Representatives. When presented with this information, a majority (59%) did not change their preference. However, after finding out the impact on Senator tenure, almost one in four (24%) changed their preference to a shorter term for the Lower House, while 11% opted for an even longer term.

ONE IN FIVE SUPPORT CURRENT THREE YEAR TERM FOR HOUSE OF REPS BUT FOUR YEAR FIXED OR MAXIMUM TERMS ARE CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVES

Preferred choice for House of Representatives terms

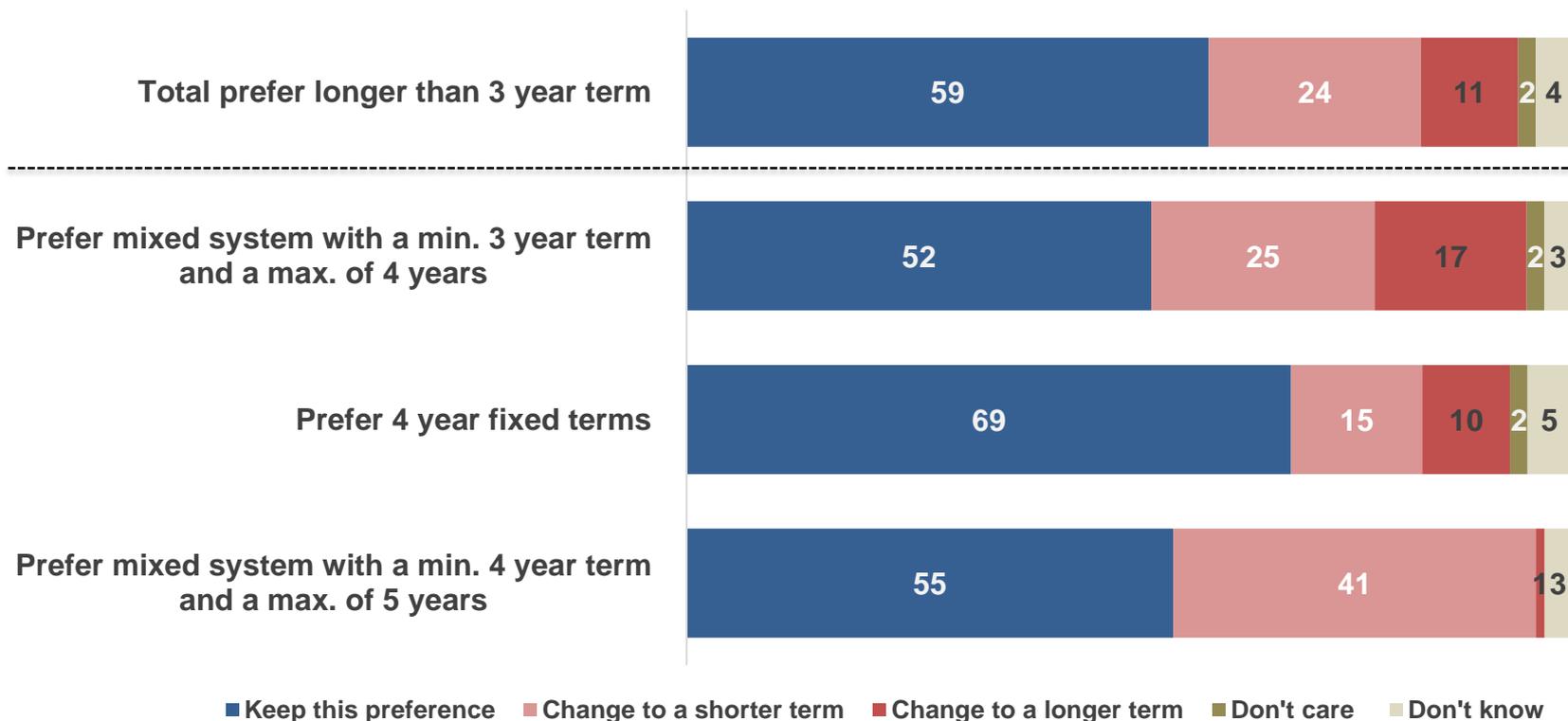


Q. Currently in the House of Representatives (or Lower House) of Federal Parliament elections are held every three years, with the Government of the day able to set the election date. There are various proposals to change this... What is your preference for parliamentary terms for the House of Representatives in the Federal Parliament?

Base: All respondents, n=1,228

TAKING AN EXTENDED SENATE TERM INTO ACCOUNT, A MAJORITY STILL PREFER THEIR CHOICE OF A LONGER HOUSE OF REPS TERM

Preferred choice knowing Senate term will be double House of Representatives term



Q. Currently in the Senate (or Upper House) of Federal Parliament, Senators serve a six-year term, roughly coinciding with two terms of the House of Representatives. If the House of Representatives moves to longer terms, terms for Senators would likely need to be extended to double that term. Considering this, what is your preference for parliamentary terms for the House of Representatives in the Federal Parliament if it also means Senate terms will be extended to double that term?

Base: Respondents who prefer longer than 3 years: Total n=617, Min 3 yr/max 4 yr n=219, 4 yr fixed n=272, Min 4yr/max 5yr n=74

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Conducted as part of True Issues Wave 12, in field 15-23 March, 2017

Comprised of a representative sample of 1,228 Australians aged 18+

Conducted as an online survey with sample drawn from the Cint's OpinionHUB panel marketplace platform (www.cint.com)+

Survey quotas on age, gender and location, as well as post-weighting to ABS population distribution, to ensure accurate representation.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of $n=1,228$ interviews is $\pm 2.8\%$ at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%.

This research was conducted in compliance with AS-ISO 20252.



**THERE ARE OVER
24 MILLION PEOPLE
IN AUSTRALIA...**

**FIND OUT
WHAT THEY'RE
THINKING.**

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