



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM

PROJECT TITLE: Electoral Research Survey - Queensland State general election 2024

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS: Doctor Ferran Martinez i Coma (Griffith University), Professor Lisa Hill (University of Adelaide), and Professor Rodrigo Praino (Flinders University).

Dear Participant,

You are invited to participate in an electoral research survey to better understand voting behaviour at the 2024 Queensland State general election. This survey is one part of a larger research project into voting behaviour and informal voting in Queensland.

Who is undertaking the project?

The electoral research project is a collaboration between Griffith University, the University of Adelaide, Flinders University and the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ). The Chief Investigators on the project are Doctor Ferran Martinez i Coma (Griffith University), Professor Lisa Hill (University of Adelaide) and Professor Rodrigo Praino (Flinders University). This survey is part of a larger research project on voting behaviour funded by the Australian Research Council and includes contributions from the ECQ.

Why am I being invited to participate and how did you get my details?

You have been selected to participate in this survey as your enrolment details include your email address. ECQ records show you were eligible to vote in the 2024 State general election in Queensland.

The ECQ's involvement in this research project and the distribution of the survey is in keeping with its legal functions, obligations and agency objectives. Under section 7(1)(a) and (i) of the *Electoral Act 1992* the ECQ or its agents are authorised to access information on the electoral roll to perform its functions which include conducting and promoting research into electoral matters. One of the ECQ's key objectives in its [Strategic Plan 2024-2028](#), is to increase electoral awareness and participation, and to seek to decrease unintentional informal voting at elections.

Your participation in this short survey will help the researchers and the ECQ better understand electors' experiences of the election and voting behaviour in Queensland more generally, in particular issues relating to informal voting, with the goal of reducing unintentional informal voting, and so promote elector participation.



What will happen to my information and survey responses?

The ECQ has not shared your personal information with the academic team responsible for undertaking this research. The email addresses used to distribute this message have been randomly selected and cannot be linked in any way to survey completion or individual survey responses.

Survey responses are confidential and individual responses will not be disclosed to the ECQ. Survey responses will be used as part of an ongoing research project. All responses and other records and materials related to this project will be stored securely on password-protected computers/university computer servers and/or locked cabinets at Flinders University. Only named researchers associated with this project will have access to them. This information will be kept for a minimum of 5 years from the date of any publication(s) resulting from this study.

No personal identifiable information will be collected, utilised, or stored by the researchers at any time. Consequently, once you complete and return the survey to the researcher, there is no way to link you to the answers you provide.

Data collected through the survey will be statistically analysed. Study results will be submitted for publication as a series of conference presentations, peer reviewed journal articles, books or other publication outlets. Individual participants will not be identified in the publications, and only aggregate data will be published.

What will I be asked to do?

You will be asked to anonymously answer the online survey questions. You may skip any questions you do not wish to answer.

How much time will the survey take?

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?

There are no foreseeable risks associated with participating in this project.

What are the benefits of the research project?

You will be contributing to our understanding of voting behaviour in Queensland, which will help the research team and the ECQ to make elections more inclusive.



**Flinders
University**



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Can I withdraw from the project?

Participation in the survey is completely voluntary. Once you have completed and submitted answers to the questions, it is not possible to withdraw your responses from the study because they are anonymous. Participants can withdraw from the survey at any time or choose to not submit their response by simply closing the browser window.

Will my information be used in future research?

The data collected will be used for current and future research projects aimed at understanding and addressing informal voting in Queensland.

Still have questions, or would like to raise a concern or complaint?

The study has been approved by Griffith University's Human Research Ethics Committee (approval number GU Ref No: 2024/734).

Griffith University conducts research in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. If you have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of this research project, please contact the Senior Manager, Research Ethics Integrity and Governance on 07 3735 4375 or research-ethics@griffith.edu.au.

For more information about project, you can visit the ECQ website www.ecq.qld.gov.au/electorsurvey or email ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au.

If I want to participate, what do I do?

If you wish to participate, please complete the attached survey and click "Submit." By completing the survey, you are consenting to participate in the research.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ferran Martinez i Coma".

Doctor Ferran Martinez i Coma, Griffith University