Future Summit Participants compared to the Australian Population

Future Summit 2008

Presented by
Michele Levine, Chief Executive
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“Most important issues facing the world”

What do you think is the most important problem facing the WORLD today?

- Environmental Issues: 35% (Futures Summit Participants 2008), 44% (Australians 2008)
- Economic Issues: 24% (Futures Summit Participants 2008), 29% (Australians 2008)
- Energy Crisis/Depletion of Fossil Fuels/Petrol Prices: 10% (Futures Summit Participants 2008)
- Social Issues: 10% (Futures Summit Participants 2008)
- Terrorism/Wars/Security, Safety: 14% (Futures Summit Participants 2008)
- Government, Human Issues: 4% (Futures Summit Participants 2008)
- Health Issues: 1% (Futures Summit Participants 2008)
- Other: 10% (Futures Summit Participants 2008)
- Can’t say: 0% (Futures Summit Participants 2008)

Base:
Future Summit Participants: n=125
Australians: n = 650

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“Most important issues facing Australia”

What do you think is the most important problem facing Australia today?

- Environmental Issues
- Economic Issues
- Energy Crisis/Depletion of Fossil Fuels/Petrol Prices
- Social Issues
- Terrorism/Wars/Security, Safety
- Government, Human Issues
- Health Issues
- Other
- Can’t say

Futures Summit Participants 2008
Australians 2008

Base:
Future Summit Participants; n=125
Australians; n = 650

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“Most important environmental issues facing the world”

What do you believe are the important ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES facing the WORLD today?

- Global Warming Issues: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (55%), Australians 2008 (68%)
- Water Management Issues: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (16%), Australians 2008 (26%)
- Depletion of Resources: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (14%), Australians 2008 (25%)
- Pollution: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (13%), Australians 2008 (23%)
- Over Population / Urbanisation: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (4%), Australians 2008 (9%)
- Waste Management: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (4%), Australians 2008 (4%)
- Natural Disasters (including Drought): Futures Summit Participants 2008 (10%), Australians 2008 (10%)
- Other: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (17%), Australians 2008 (22%)
- Can't say: Futures Summit Participants 2008 (5%), Australians 2008 (5%)

Base:
Future Summit Participants: n=125
Australians: n = 650

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“Most important environmental issues facing Australia”

What do you believe are the important ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES facing AUSTRALIA today?

- Global Warming Issues: 49% Futures Summit Participants, 28% Australians
- Water Management Issues: 58% Futures Summit Participants, 32% Australians
- Depletion of Resources: 18% Futures Summit Participants, 15% Australians
- Pollution: 19% Futures Summit Participants, 3% Australians
- Over Population / Urbanisation: 1% Futures Summit Participants, 3% Australians
- Waste Management: 2% Futures Summit Participants, 4% Australians
- Natural Disasters (including Drought): 19% Futures Summit Participants, 11% Australians
- Other: 21% Futures Summit Participants, 20% Australians
- Can't say: 21% Futures Summit Participants, 8% Australians
- None: 3% Futures Summit Participants, 0% Australians

Base: Futures Summit Participants: n=125
Australians: n = 650
### “Which media main source of information”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newspapers</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**“Views on climate change or global warming”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Future Summit Participants</th>
<th>Australians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerns are exaggerated</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If we don't act now it will be too late</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is already too late</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can't Say</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Question was previously asked as: "Which of the following is closest to your view of global warming?"
“Regions most important for Australia for business purposes”

Which one region do you think is the most important to Australia for BUSINESS

- Indonesia: 4% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 5% (Australians 2008)
- China: 81% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 66% (Australians 2008)
- India: 10% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 6% (Australians 2008)
- Japan: 13% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 5% (Australians 2008)
- None / Can’t say: 10% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 0% (Australians 2008)

Base: Future Summit Participants = 125
Australians = 650
Which one region do you think is the most important to Australia for SECURITY PURPOSES?

- **Indonesia**: 58% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 46% (Australians 2008)
- **China**: 33% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 25% (Australians 2008)
- **India**: 2% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 3% (Australians 2008)
- **Japan**: 7% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 12% (Australians 2008)
- **None / Can't say**: 0% (Future Summit Participants 2008), 14% (Australians 2008)

Base:
- Future Summit Participants: n=125
- Australians: n = 650
“Countries Australia able to work effectively with for economic and security matters”

Which one region do you think Australia is most able to work with effectively on BOTH ECONOMIC AND SECURITY matters?

- Indonesia: 11% Future Summit Participants 2008, 14% Australians 2008
- China: 30% Future Summit Participants 2008, 28% Australians 2008
- India: 11% Future Summit Participants 2008, 10% Australians 2008
- Japan: 48% Future Summit Participants 2008, 34% Australians 2008
- None / Can’t say: 0% Future Summit Participants 2008, 14% Australians 2008

Base: Future Summit Participants, n=125
Australians, n = 650
“Number one priority for Government policy over the next 10 years”

Which ONE of the following should be the number one priority for government policy over the next 10 years?

- Promoting infrastructure development: 38% Futures Summit Participants 2008, 29% Australians 2008
- Overcoming the skills shortage: 37% Futures Summit Participants 2008, 28% Australians 2008
- Driving productivity growth: 21% Futures Summit Participants 2008, 8% Australians 2008
- Maintaining a balanced budget and no increase in public debt: 30% Futures Summit Participants 2008, 4% Australians 2008
- Can’t say: 0% Futures Summit Participants 2008, 5% Australians 2008

Base:
Future Summit Participants: n=125
Australians: n = 650

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Future Summit Participants

Future Summit 2008

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Government
The major issues of our time are global, and thus require global cooperation and responses. In this context, do you think Australia’s role should be to:

- Act as a model global citizen in the long-term collective interest, even where this may conflict with our perceived short-term national interest (58%)
- Positively influence those issues where there is a clear medium-term strategic imperative for Australia (37%)
- Respond based on Australia’s immediate interest, defined in terms of our economy and security (5%)
What scale of change do you think is needed to achieve Australia's optimal system of government?

- The system will require ongoing adjustment achieved through cooperation between governments (50%)
- The current system has served its purpose and a new model is required, involving major constitutional reform (44%)
- The system, as evolved, has served Australia well, so why change it? (6%)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
In your opinion, what is the role for participative democracy in Australia's system of government?

- When an issue affects an identifiable community group, government should encourage their input and participation in decision making (46%)
- Meaningful community participation in all government decision making best serves the public interest (40%)
- Elections are the appropriate opportunity for participation in democracy - governments are elected to make decisions (14%)
Infrastructure
Most people agree that Australia needs to be planning for the long term future and that infrastructure is critical. What do you see as the most important infrastructure challenges facing Australia?*

**Base:**
Future Summit Participants 2008, n=125

*Respondents could give more than one answer*
“Congestion of road network in Australia’s major cities”

How congested do you perceive the road network in Australia’s major cities to be?

- Very Congested (58%)
- Somewhat Congested (41%)
- Not At All Congested (1%)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
“Congestion of public transport in Australia’s major cities”

How congested do you perceive public transport in Australia's major cities to be?

- Very Congested (47%)
- Somewhat Congested (47%)
- Not At All Congested (6%)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
Social
Would you support a broadening of the Australian immigration program to include the intake of say 25,000 unskilled migrants per year for five years?

- Yes (45%)
- No (30%)
- Can't Say (25%)
Over the last 10 years, do you think Australia has become a MORE generous and fair nation, a LESS generous and fair nation, or is it no different than 10 years?

- Less Generous And Fair (67%)
- More Generous And Fair (17%)
- No Different (16%)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
Health
**“Most important thing government could do to improve health of Australians”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most important thing to improve health of Australians</th>
<th>Future Summit Participants 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invest In Preventative Health Care And Education</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs/ Encourage An Active And Healthy Lifestyle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce Obesity/ Promote Healthy Diet</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve Access To Health Services</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve Co-Operation/ Reduce Bureaucracy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between State And Federal Levels/ Take Control At One Level Of Government Only</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve Indigenous Health</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce Smoking/ Continue To Ban Smoking In More Places</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better Public Health System</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorten Waiting Lists</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop Messing Around With The Health System</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease Alcohol Consumption</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Funding Towards Community Health Centres</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More/ Better Hospitals</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other / Can’t say</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Compared to your parents which do you have…”

Compared to your parents when they were your age, which of the following do you think you have?*

- A better chance of surviving a serious accident or illness (74%)
- Better access to healthcare services (58%)
- A better overall level of health (53%)
- A healthier lifestyle (45%)
- A happier life overall (30%)
- None of these (6%)

* Respondents could give more than one answer

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125

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Education
“Most important factor influencing quality of teachers in Australia”

What do you think is the MOST important factor influencing the quality of teachers in Australia?

- Status of the teaching profession (34%)
- Compensation (18%)
- Employment conditions (16%)
- Academic aptitude of teachers (14%)
- Training (10%)
- Other (8%)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
“Asset requiring most investment to support educational improvement in Australia”

In your opinion, which asset requires the MOST investment to support educational improvement in Australia?

- People (88%)
- Information and communication technologies (ICT) (5%)
- Physical facilities (eg. buildings and grounds) (3%)
- Other (2%)
- Can't Say (2%)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
"What one thing would you change in Australia’s education sector"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change in Education</th>
<th>Future Summit Participants 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increasing teacher's pay / salaries / remuneration / rewards / incentives</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review curriculum (job-ready skills / alignment with real-world needs / balance across faculties)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment / funding in education (unspecified)</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promote the importance / value / recognition / status of teachers in society</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attract / keep the best / highest quality teachers</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationally standardised system</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance based pay / reward ‘top’ teachers</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop government funding for private schools</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further better training / education for teachers</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free / cheap tertiary education / reduce HECS debts</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve student/ teacher ratios / more teachers / smaller class sizes</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessible education for the disadvantaged / disabled / mature age students</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure (unspec)</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other / Can’t say</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economics
“Consumer Confidence”

Consumer Confidence: 100.1

Would you say you and your family are better off financially or worse off than you were at this time last year?

- Better off: 39%
- Worse off: 38%

This time next year, do you and your family expect to be better off financially or worse off than you are now?

- Better off: 35%
- Worse off: 26%

Thinking of economic conditions in Australia as a whole. In the next 12 months, do you expect we'll have good times financially, or bad times?

- Good times: 62%
- Bad times: 38%

Looking ahead, what would you say is more likely? That in Australia as a whole, we'll have continuous good times during the next 5 years or so, or we'll have bad times?

- Good times: 72%
- Bad times: 28%

Generally, do you think now is a good time - or a bad time - for people to buy major household items?

- Good time to buy: 38%
- Bad time to buy: 62%
“Strength of Australian economy in ten years time”

Thinking about future economic conditions in Australia. In 10 years’ time, do you think the economy will be stronger than it is now, weaker than it is now, or no different than it is now?

- Stronger than it is now (37%)
- Weaker than it is now (37%)
- No different (26%)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
In your opinion, which ONE of the following should be the number one priority for government policy over the next 10 years?

- Promoting infrastructure development (38%)
- Overcoming the skills shortage (37%)
- Driving productivity growth (21%)
- Maintaining a balanced budget and no increase in public debt (4%)
Regional
“Regions most important for Australia for business purposes”

Please rank the following regions in order of importance to indicate which you think is Australia's most important relationship in the region for BUSINESS PURPOSES.

Ranked FIRST (Most Important)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: Future Summit Participants; n=125
"Region important to Australia for security purposes"

Please rank the following regions in order of importance to indicate which you think is Australia's most important relationship in the region for SECURITY PURPOSES.

Ranked FIRST (Most Important)

- Indonesia: 58%
- China: 33%
- India: 2%
- Japan: 7%

Base: Future Summit Participants; n=125
“Countries Australia able to work effectively with for economic and security matters”

Please rank the following countries in order of importance to indicate which you think Australia is most able to work with effectively on BOTH economic AND security matters.

- **Indonesia**: 11%
- **China**: 30%
- **India**: 11%
- **Japan**: 48%

*Base: Future Summit Participants, n=125*
Environment
“Climate change and my behaviour”

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:

- I am prepared to change behaviour to reduce my level of carbon emissions (96% - 55% strongly agree)
- I am prepared to pay a reasonable premium for products and services to reduce my level of carbon emissions (81% - 46% strongly agree)
- Climate change is the single biggest issue facing Australia over the next 20 years (80% - 45% strongly agree)

Base: Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
“Role Australia should take with climate change in the future”

Which of the following statements best describes the role that you believe Australia should take on in respect to climate change in the future:

- A cooperative player on the global level that primarily focuses on getting its own house in order (51%)
- A globally leading and driving force in the battle against climate change (48%)
- A critical observer of international acting in the (today's) national interest (1%)

Base:
Future Summit Participants 2008; n=125
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