

# PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT PULSE

## AT A GLANCE



### What is this report about?

The Purpose of Government Pulse Report 2025 examines public attitudes towards government and democracy in Australia. Based on nearly a decade of survey data, it reveals a strong and consistent belief among Australians that democracy should ensure fairness and equality, and government should be focused on supporting wellbeing, and ensuring a decent standard of living.

Australians continue to expect government to play an active role in providing essential services, but they are increasingly frustrated by short-term political decision-making and feel disconnected from the policy process. The report highlights growing concerns about political representation and trust, and shows there is clear public support for more ambitious, long-term policy making.



### What are the key findings?



Most Australians (31%) see ensuring a decent standard of living as the primary purpose of government



Most Australians (33%) see ensuring all people are treated fairly and equally as the primary purpose of democracy



76% of Australians think the wellbeing of the population should be the top priority in government decision-making



63% of Australians think that politics is more focused on short-term gains than addressing long-term challenges



85% of Australians believe it is important for governments to maintain the capability to deliver social services directly



55% of Australians agree that elected representatives do not seem to be serving their needs and interests

