

# 2026 State Election Survey Results

## Top election issues for older South Australians:



Cost of living 50%



Access to healthcare 49%



Aged care system 33%



Climate change, natural disasters + extreme weather events 31%



Housing 30%

**494** older people completed our survey



39% male



59% female

1% non-binary

1% other/prefer not to say

2% 50-59 years old  
21% 60-69 years old  
50% 70-79 years old  
27% 80+ years old



74% Metropolitan Adelaide

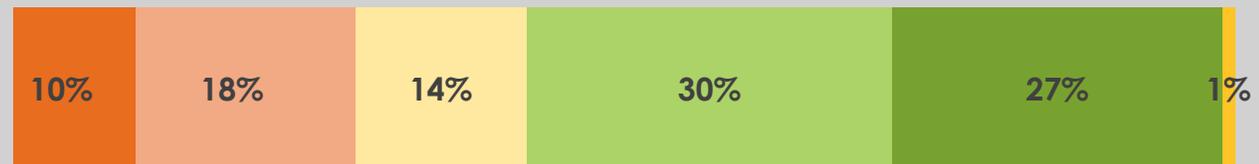


26% Regional / Rural South Australia

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COTA SA should continue lobbying the government [regarding] seniors to ensure that the government does spend time and funds on the aging population.

Level of satisfaction with the State Election result.



■ Very Dissatisfied 
 ■ Dissatisfied 
 ■ Neutral 
 ■ Satisfied 
 ■ Very Satisfied 
 ■ Not sure / prefer not to say

# COTA SA 2026 State Election Survey Results (cont.)



**While the majority (57%) of survey respondents were satisfied with the election outcome, there was concern about the lack of strong opposition and what this means for holding the government to account.**

**They are looking to advocacy groups like COTA SA to advocate for the needs of older people\*:**

*"Strong advocacy will be very important. Keep them on their toes, as the opposition may not be able to. Older voters are in big numbers"*



**Health and Aged Care:** Respondents want the Labor government to focus on improvements to health care in the state including ramping, access to hospitals and aged care. COTA SA's role here is seen as important: *"Important that we continue to lobby for a humane system of transfer from hospital to aged care and free ambulance for all older South Australians"*



**Cost of Living Pressures:** Respondents were skeptical of government addressing the economic instability South Australians of all ages are facing, and particularly those on fixed incomes who feel powerless.



**Regional/rural concerns:** Regional respondents felt that they were largely 'forgotten' and while election promises like improvements to the PATS scheme were welcome, respondents were eager to see promise kept: *"if they keep their promises (like PATS) things may be better but how many actually keep promises?"*

\*Survey question: How do you think the outcome of the recent State election should shape COTA SA's advocacy with government?

**For many swing voters, the change in vote for this election was strategic and a protest, to send a message and apply pressure to the major parties:**

*"...there are alternative options available to voters that are not 'party' based and the government should be aware of how easily voters' minds can change"*



\*\*Survey question: Did you vote differently in this State election compared to previous State election?