

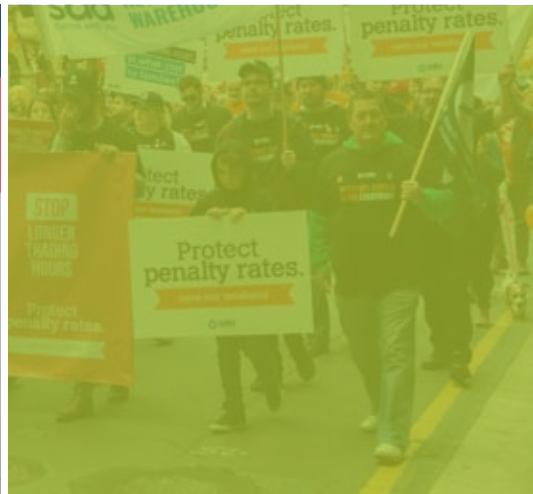
NEW SOUTH WALES

COMMUNITY PULSE

2018



the
economic
disconnect



Community pulse 2018: the economic disconnect

NEW SOUTH WALES

About this publication

Community pulse 2018: the economic disconnect – New South Wales

© CEDA 2018

ISBN: 0 85801 323 1

CEDA's objective in publishing this collection is to encourage constructive debate and discussion on matters of national economic importance. Persons who rely upon the material published do so at their own risk.

Design Robyn Zwar Design

Photography

Cover: Top row, middle left and bottom row: iStock

Middle centre: Steve Design/Shutterstock.com

Middle right: Greyboots40/Shutterstock.com

Page 5: iStock

About CEDA

CEDA – the Committee for Economic Development of Australia – is a national, independent, member-based organisation providing thought leadership and policy perspectives on the economic and social issues affecting Australia.

We achieve this through a rigorous and evidence-based research agenda, and forums and events that deliver lively debate and critical perspectives.

CEDA's membership includes more than 750 of Australia's leading businesses and organisations, and leaders from a wide cross-section of industries and academia. It allows us to reach major decision makers across the private and public sectors.

CEDA is an independent not-for-profit organisation, founded in 1960 by leading Australian economist Sir Douglas Copland. Our funding comes from membership fees, events and sponsorship.

CEDA – the Committee for Economic Development of Australia

Level 13, 440 Collins Street

Melbourne 3000 Australia

Telephone: +61 3 9662 3544

Fax: +61 3 9663 7271

Email: info@ceda.com.au

Web: ceda.com.au



New South Wales results



Introduction

This brief paper summarises New South Wales results of nation-wide polling exploring Australians' attitudes to work, education, health, community and the economy.

The full results are contained in the report *Community pulse 2018: the economic disconnect*. This New South Wales summary is a companion paper to the main report.

Additional state-specific papers have been produced to summarise results from Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia. *Community pulse 2018: the economic disconnect* and companion reports are available from www.ceda.com.au.

State profile – New South Wales

Gross State Product (2016–17)	\$557.9 billion
Percentage of national economy	33 per cent
Average weekly earnings (November 2017)	\$1585.90
Unemployment rate (May)	4.9 per cent
Population (September 2017)	7.896 million
Population in greater capital city (2016)	5.03 million
Population growth (2012–17)	0.564 million
Population over 65 years old	1.25 million
Annual Government Expenditure (2018–19)	\$79.7 billion
Largest industries	Financial and insurance services, Professional, scientific and technical services, construction, healthcare and social assistance, manufacturing

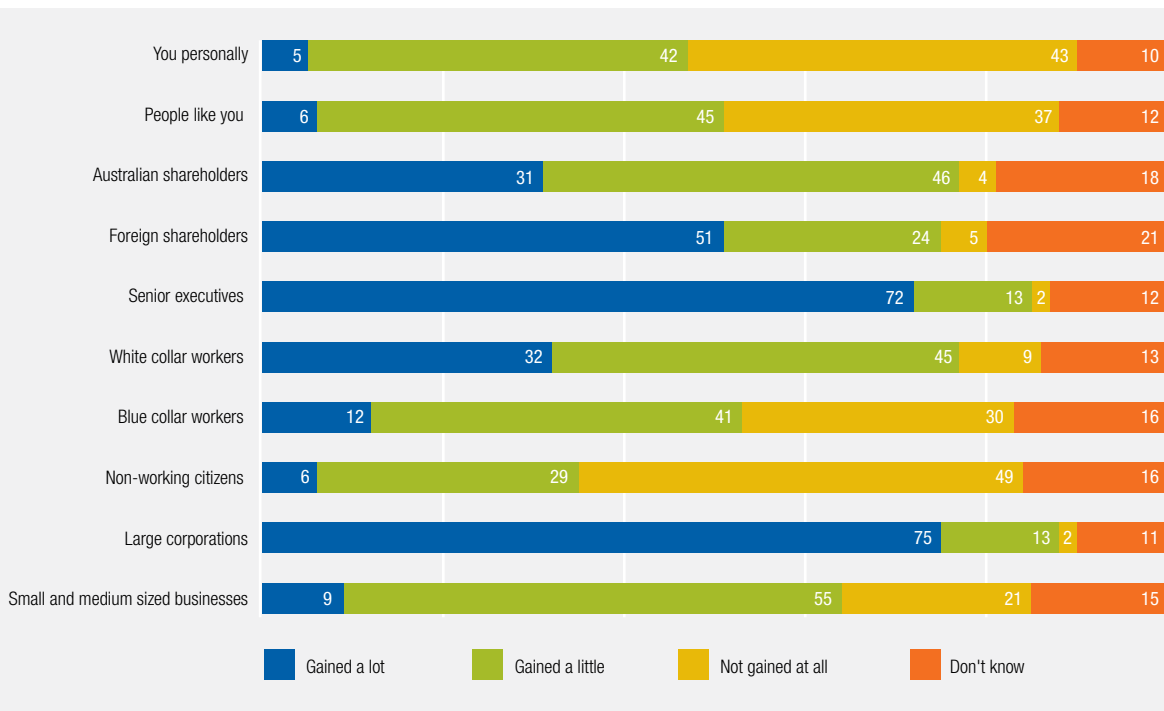
Source: ABS, State Budget papers

Attitudes to recent economic growth and development

Who has benefited from 26 years of economic growth?

- Compared to the national results, NSW respondents are more likely to believe that they have personally gained (either a little or a lot) from recent economic growth – 47 per cent vs 45 per cent nationally.
- Around 54 per cent of NSW respondents believe that blue collar workers have gained (either a little or a lot) from recent economic growth, which is slightly less than the national average (56 per cent).
- Slightly more NSW respondents believe that the gap between rich and poor in Australia is an acceptable consequence of economic growth – 23 per cent vs 21 per cent nationally.

FIGURE 1
WHO HAS GAINED FROM 26 YEARS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH? (% OF RESPONDENTS)*



*Please note numbers have been rounded and may not equal 100 per cent

Personal issues of greatest importance to New South Wales

Issues of greatest importance

- In addition to the top six personal issues nationally (basic health services, essential services, affordable housing, chronic disease services, job security and reduced violence), NSW residents place increased importance on mental health services.

Issues that are most contested

- NSW residents are most divided over the importance of access to affordable private health insurance and a higher minimum wage.
- At the national level people were also most divided over access to affordable private health insurance.

National issues of greatest importance to New South Wales

Issues of greatest importance

- In addition to the top national issues across the population (public hospitals, limiting foreign ownership, aged care and increased pensions) NSW residents place increased importance on protection of national parks, oceans and wildlife.
- Compared to the whole population, NSW residents place less relative importance on tough criminal laws and sentences.

Issues that are most contested

- NSW residents are most divided over lower immigration and foreign working visas.

FIGURE 2
WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT AND LEAST IMPORTANT TO YOU PERSONALLY? (RESPONSE RATE)

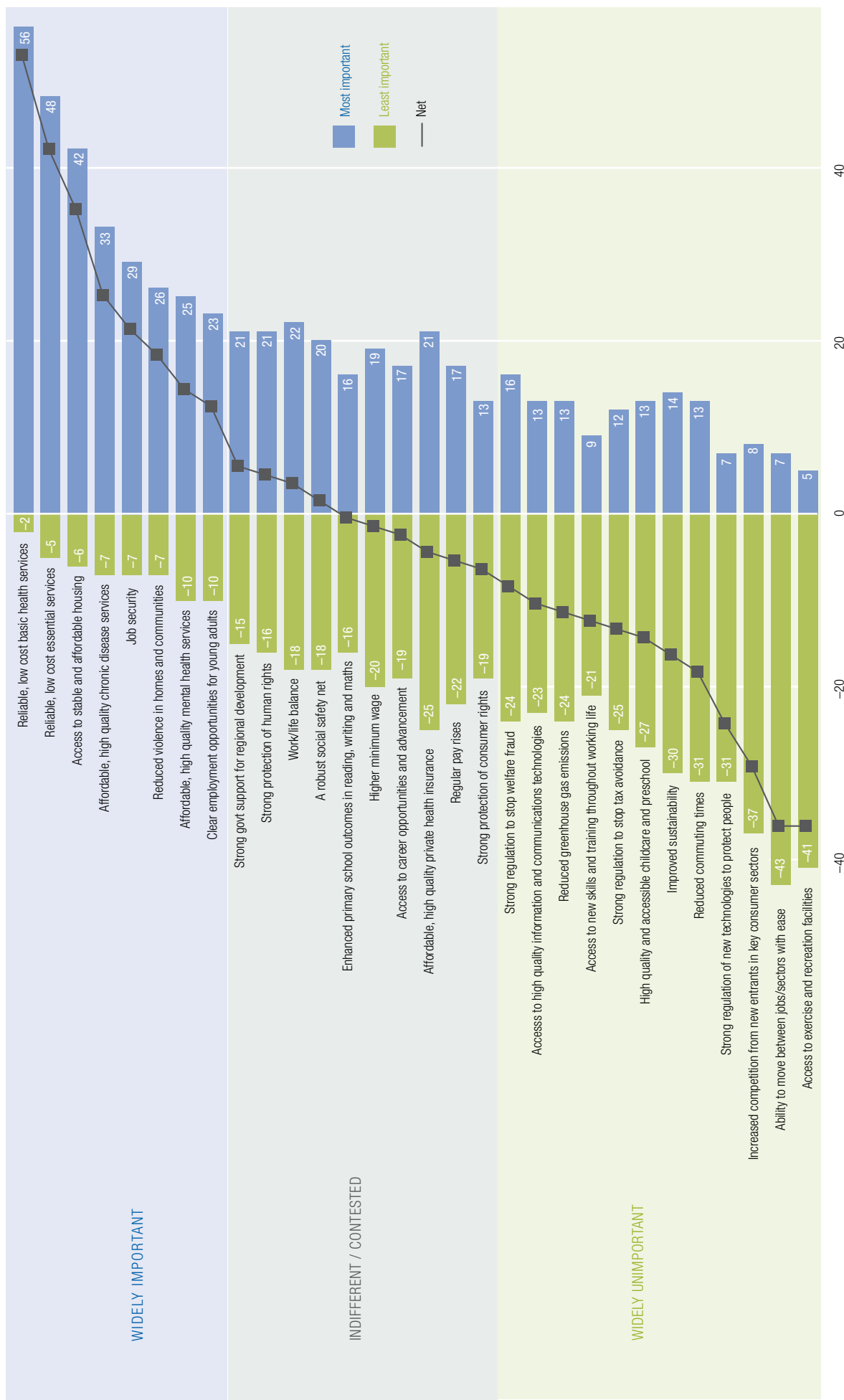


FIGURE 3
RELATIVE IMPORTANCE SCORES FOR PERSONAL ISSUES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

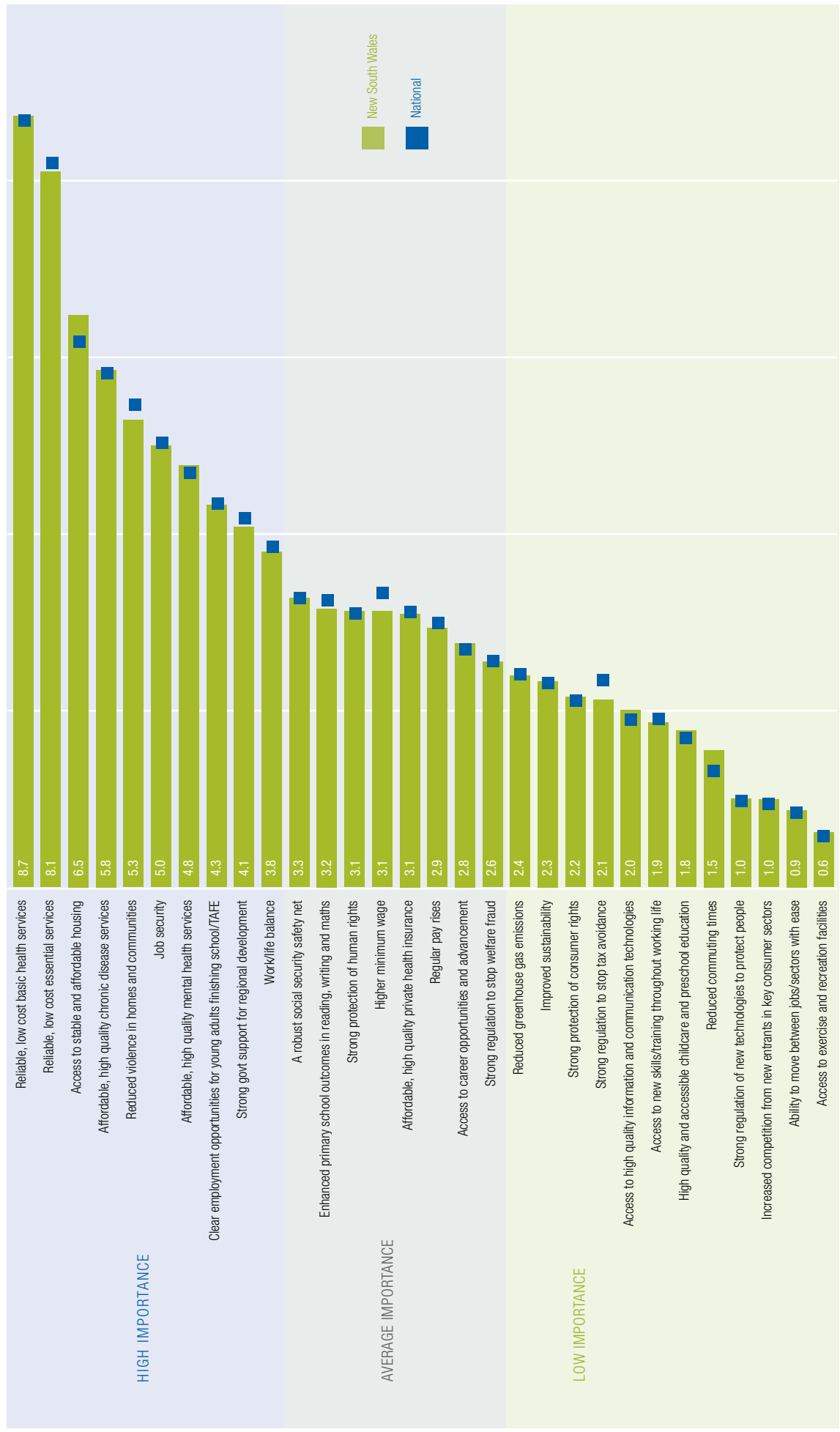


FIGURE 4
WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ARE THE MOST CRITICAL PATHS FOR THE NATION? (RESPONSE RATE)

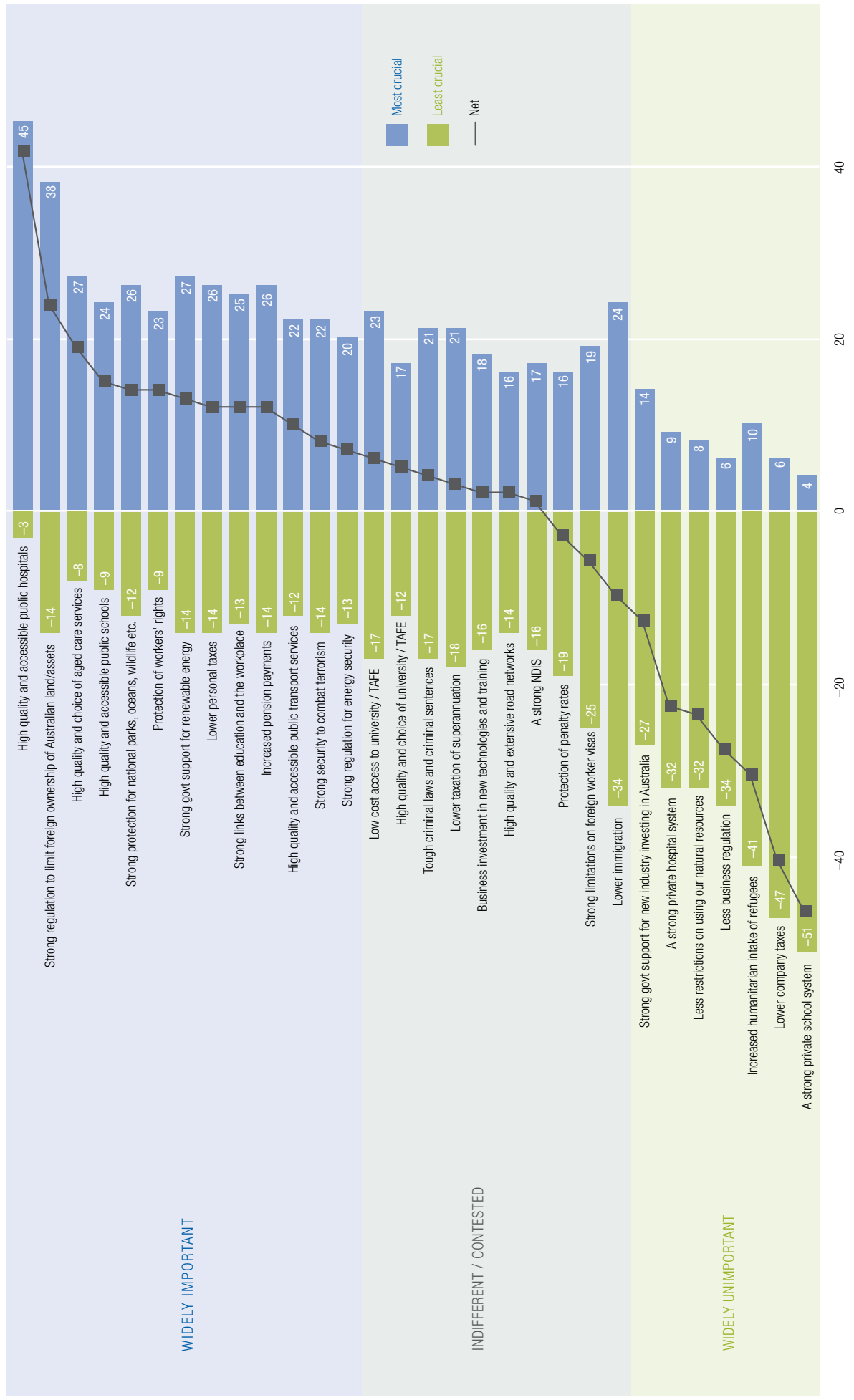
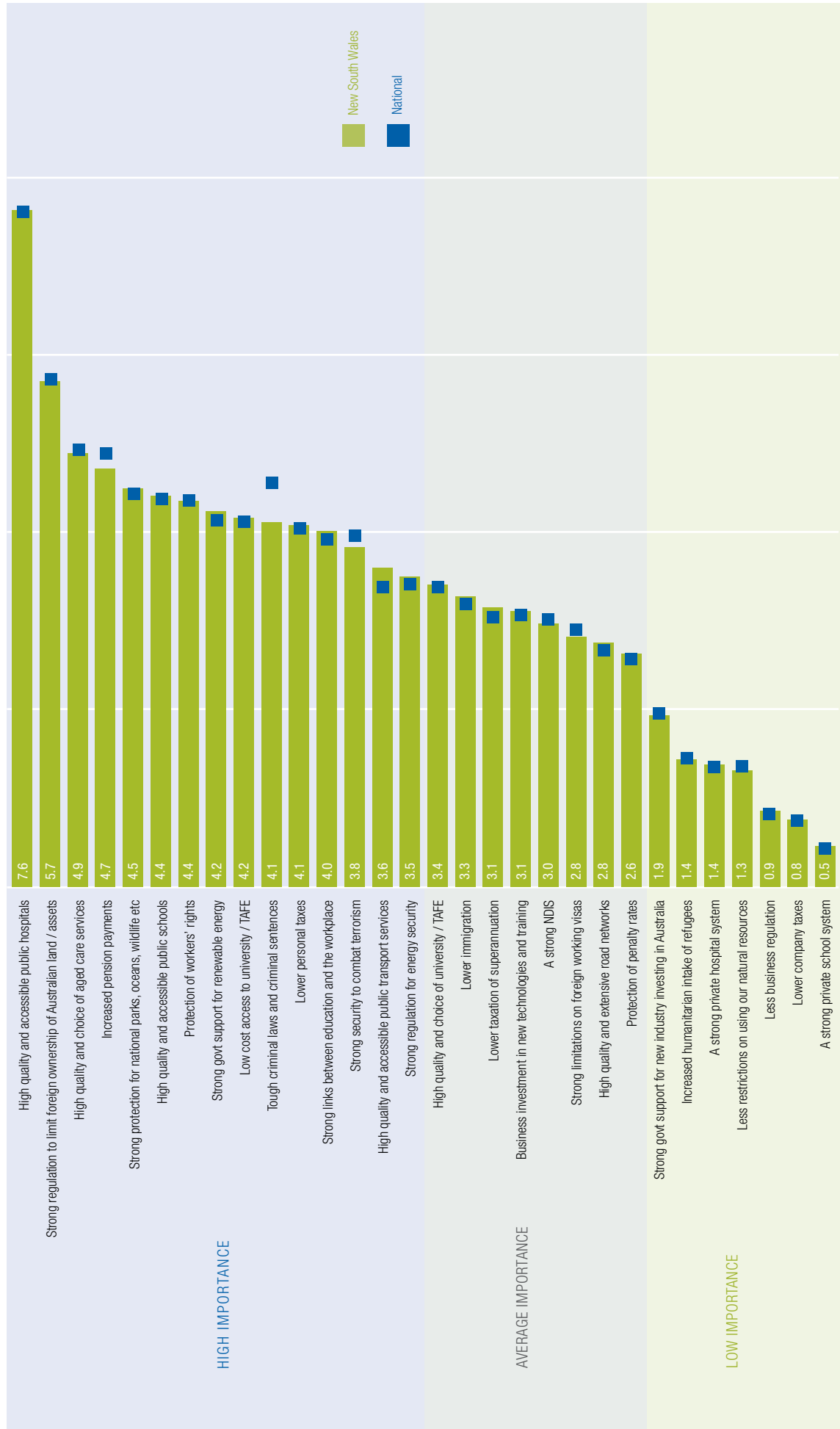


FIGURE 5
RELATIVE IMPORTANCE SCORES FOR NATIONAL ISSUES IN NEW SOUTH WALES



NSW attitudes to work

Work satisfaction

- NSW residents were more satisfied than the national population with every aspect of their work (Figure 6).

Work/life balance

- NSW workers' satisfaction with work/life balance was generally in line with the national population, although NSW workers are slightly more satisfied with flexibility to work from home and less satisfied with travel time to and from work (Figure 7).

Commuting

- 76 per cent of NSW workers enjoy a commute to work of less than an hour, compared to 81 per cent nationally.

FIGURE 6
SATISFACTION WITH DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF WORK (% , VERY + SOMEWHAT SATISFIED)

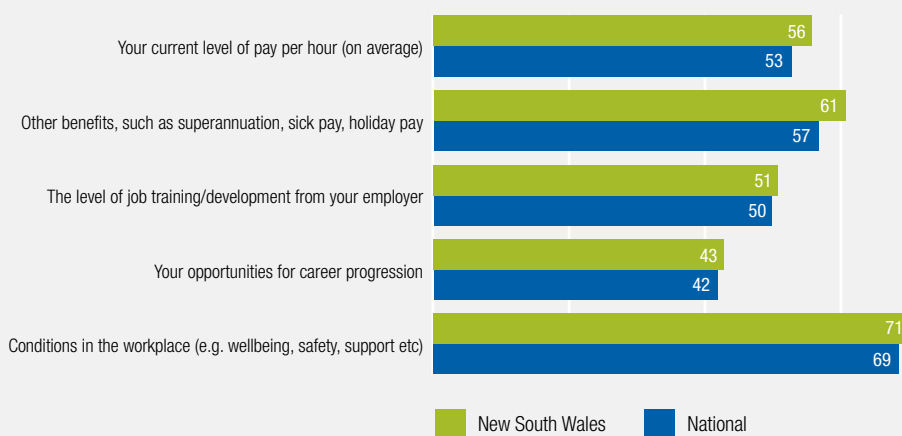
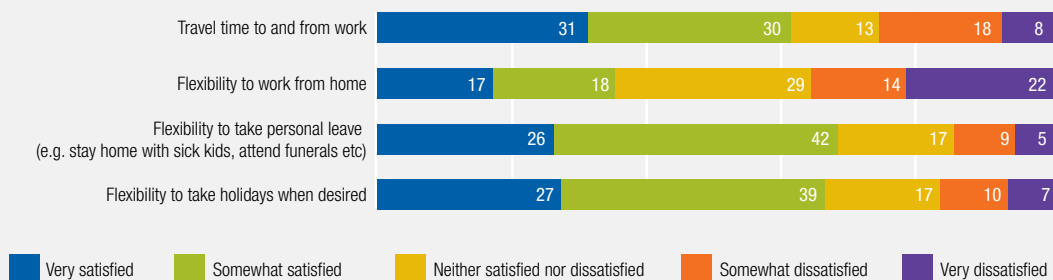


FIGURE 7
SATISFACTION WITH DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF WORK/LIFE BALANCE (%)



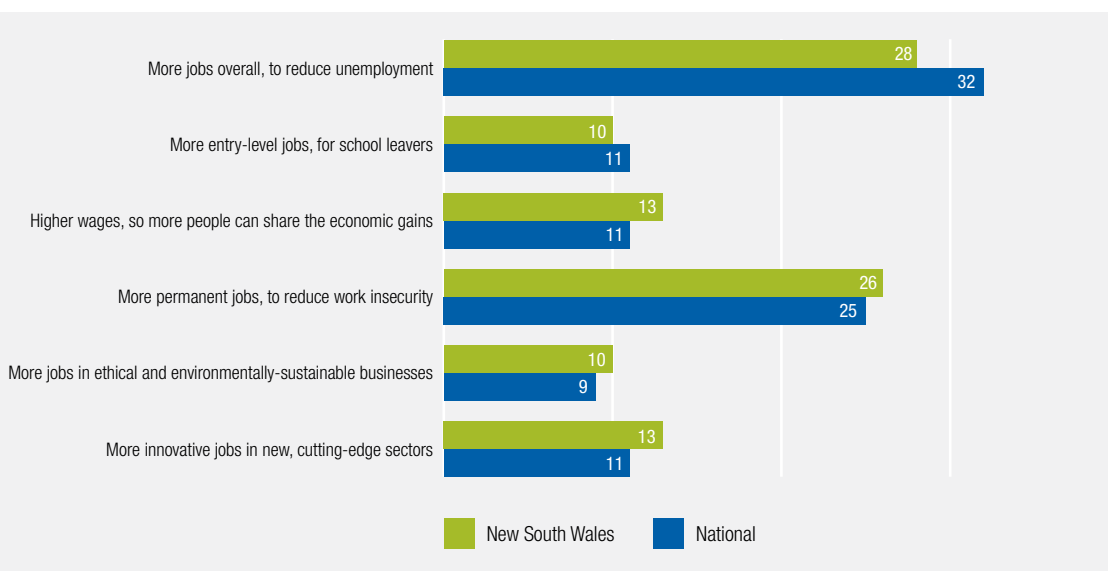
Technology

- NSW respondents are slightly less optimistic than the general population about the impact of technology on their job.
- 69 per cent would welcome new technology in their job (71 per cent nationally) and 16 per cent are worried it would replace them (12 per cent nationally).

Future jobs

- Like most Australians, NSW residents place greatest priority on more jobs overall and more permanent jobs for future job creation. NSW respondents placed slightly greater importance on more innovative jobs than the national population.
- When looking for a job, consistent with national trends conditions in the workplace are the most important factor. However, NSW respondents placed greater importance on above average pay per hour, perhaps reflecting the stronger labour market in NSW at present.

FIGURE 8
WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS MOST CRITICAL FOR FUTURE JOB CREATION?



Notes on methodology and sample

- Total sample; Weight: NSW Weight; base n = 600; total n = 3000.
- For New South Wales, the margin of error at the 95 per cent confidence interval is +/-4.0 per cent.
- This New South Wales results profile is supplementary to *Community pulse 2018: the economic disconnect*. A full description of the methodology and sample is available in this report at pp. 47 to 55.

Acknowledgements

CEDA would like to acknowledge members and individuals who contributed to CEDA's general research fund between 2 June 2017 and 1 June 2018. CEDA undertakes research with the objective of delivering independent, evidence-based policy to address critical economic issues and drive public debate and discussion. It could not complete its research agenda without the support of these contributions.

National

Level 13, 440 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
GPO Box 2117
Melbourne VIC 3001
Telephone 03 9662 3544
Email info@ceda.com.au

**New South Wales
and the ACT**

Level 14
The John Hunter Building
9 Hunter Street
Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 2100
Sydney NSW 2001
Telephone 02 9299 7022
Email info@ceda.com.au

Queensland

Level 17, 300 Adelaide Street
Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2900
Brisbane QLD 4001
Telephone 07 3229 9955
Email info@ceda.com.au

**South Australia and the
Northern Territory**

Level 5
2 Ebenezer Place
Adelaide SA 5000
Telephone 08 8211 7222
Email info@ceda.com.au

Victoria and Tasmania

Level 13
440 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
GPO Box 2117
Melbourne VIC 3001
Telephone 03 9662 3544
Email info@ceda.com.au

Western Australia

Level 5
105 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000
PO Box 5631
St Georges Tce
Perth WA 6831
Telephone 08 9226 4799
Email info@ceda.com.au