

Australia
Country Report



#### **2022 EDELMAN** TRUST BAROMETER

Methodology

27-market global data margin of error: General population +/- 0.6% (n=31,050); half-sample global general online population +/- 0.8%

Country-specific data margin of error: General population +/- 2.9% (n=1,150); half-sample +/- 4.1% (n=575).

#### Annual online survey in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year

Fieldwork conducted: Nov 1 - Nov 24, 2021

28

36,000+

1,150+

countries

respondents

respondents/country

**GLOBAL AVERAGES** vary based on the number of countries surveyed each year:

GLOBAL 27 does not include Nigeria\*

GLOBAL 22 does not include Colombia, Kenya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, S. Africa and Thailand

GLOBAL 24 Not asked in China, Russia, Thailand

the sensitive nature of the question prevented this data from being collected in these markets

Other global averages detailed in technical appendix

\*To prevent skewing the global results, Nigeria is not included in any global averages because the online population is not representative of the true population

Argentina Canada Colombia France Germany Indonesia Malaysia Saudi Arabia

Brazil

China

India

Italy

S. Africa

S. Korea

Thailand

The Netherlands

UAE

U.S.



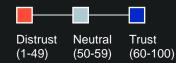
#### 22 YEARS OF TRUST

'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	·11
Rising Influence of NGOs	Fall of the Celebrity CEO	Earned Media More Credible Than Advertising	U.S. Companies in Europe Suffer Trust Discount	Trust Shifts from "Authorities" to Peers	A "Person Like Me" Emerges as Credible Spokesperson	Business More Trusted Than Government and Media	Young People Have More Trust in Business	Trust in Business Plummets	Performance and Transparency Essential to Trust	Business Must Partner With Government to Regain Trust
'12	'13	'14	<sup>'</sup> 15	'16	'17	<sup>'</sup> 18	<sup>'</sup> 19	'20	'21	<b>'22</b>
Fall of Government	Crisis of Leadership	Business to Lead the Debate for Change	Trust is Essential to Innovation	Growing Inequality of Trust	Trust in Crisis	The Battle for Truth	Trust at Work	Trust: Competence and Ethics	Business Most Trusted	The Cycle of Distrust

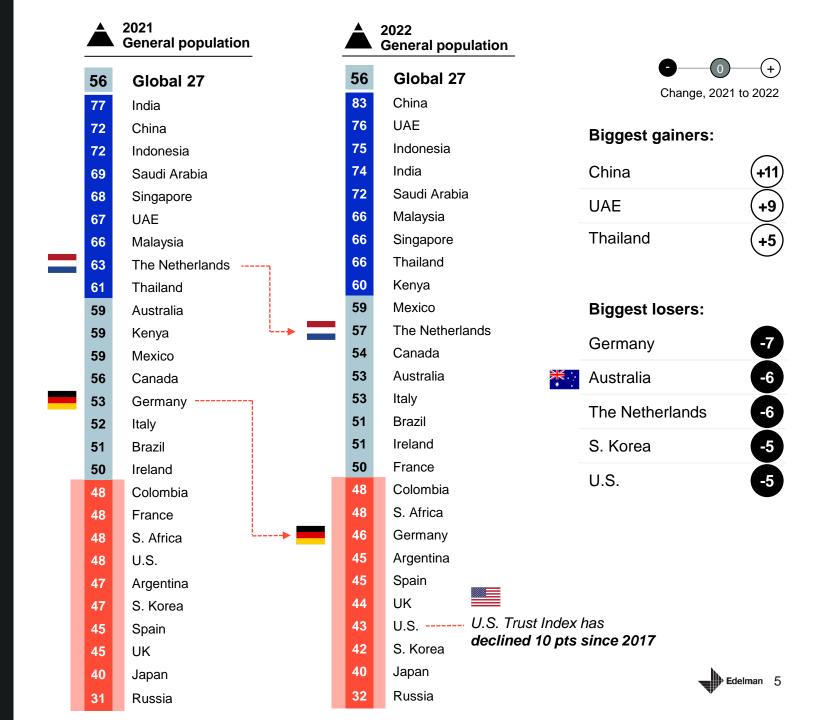


#### AUSTRALIA AMONG THE BIGGEST LOSERS

Trust Index

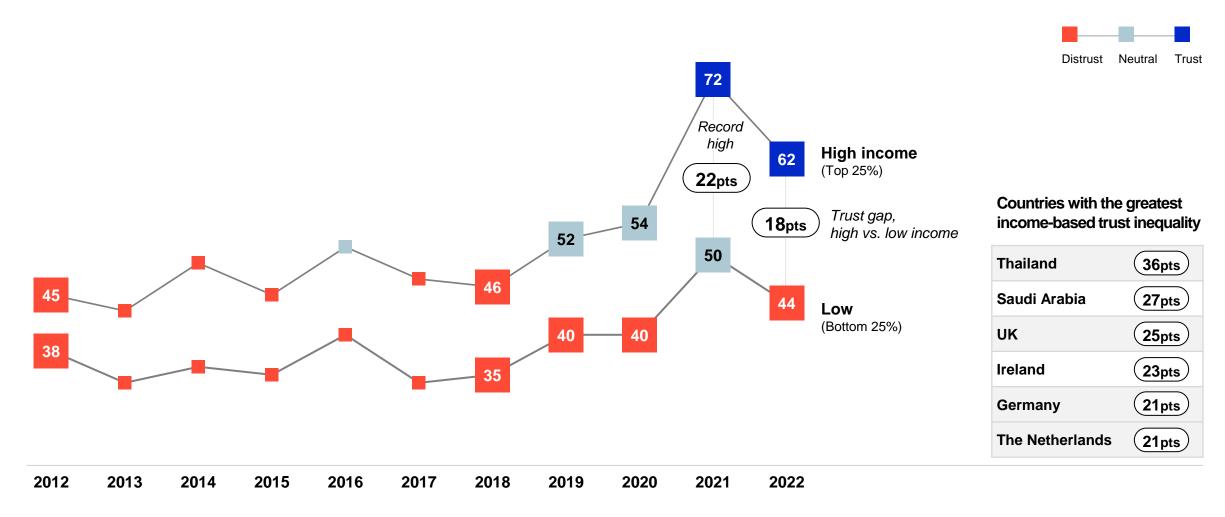


**2022 Edelman Trust Barometer.** The Trust Index is the average percent trust in NGOs, business, government and media. TRU\_INS. Below is a list of institutions. For each one, please indicate how much you trust that institution to do what is right. 9-point scale; top 4 box, trust. General population, 27-mkt avg.



#### CONTINUED TRUST INEQUALITY IN AUSTRALIA

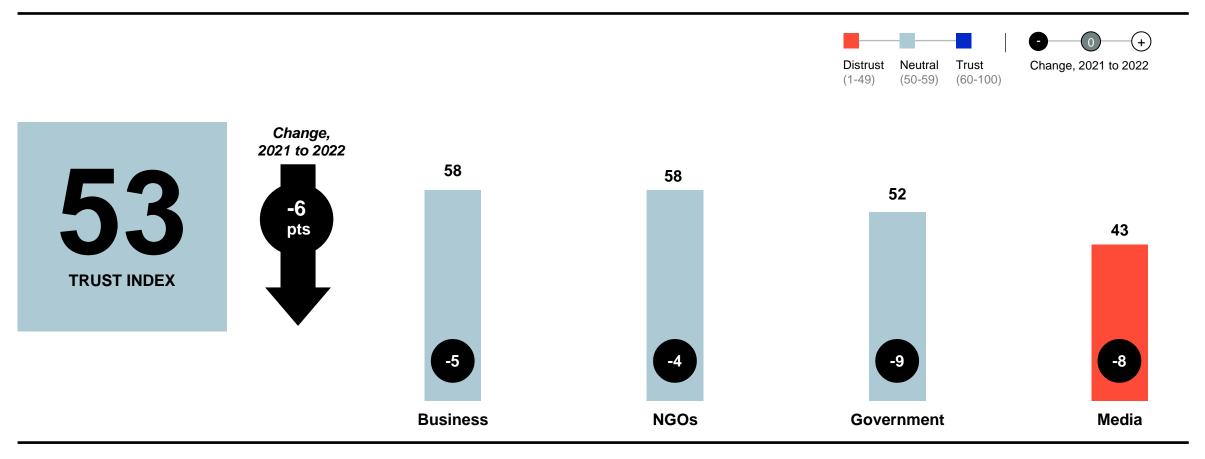
Trust Index in Australia





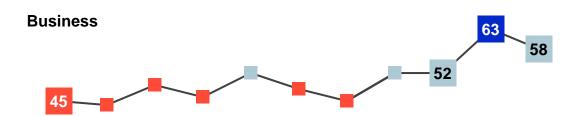
#### TRUST DECLINES FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS; NO INSTITUTION TRUSTED IN AUSTRALIA

Percent trust, in Australia

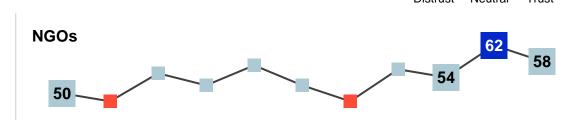


#### **AUSTRALIA'S TRUST BUBBLE HAS BURST**

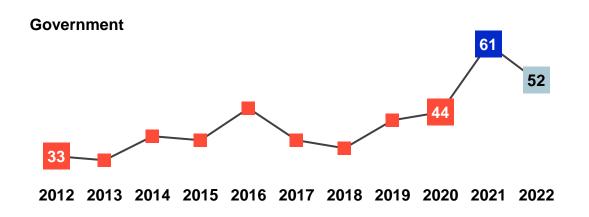
Per cent trust, in Australia

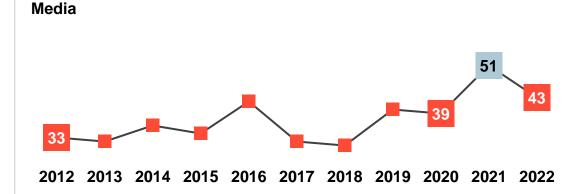


2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

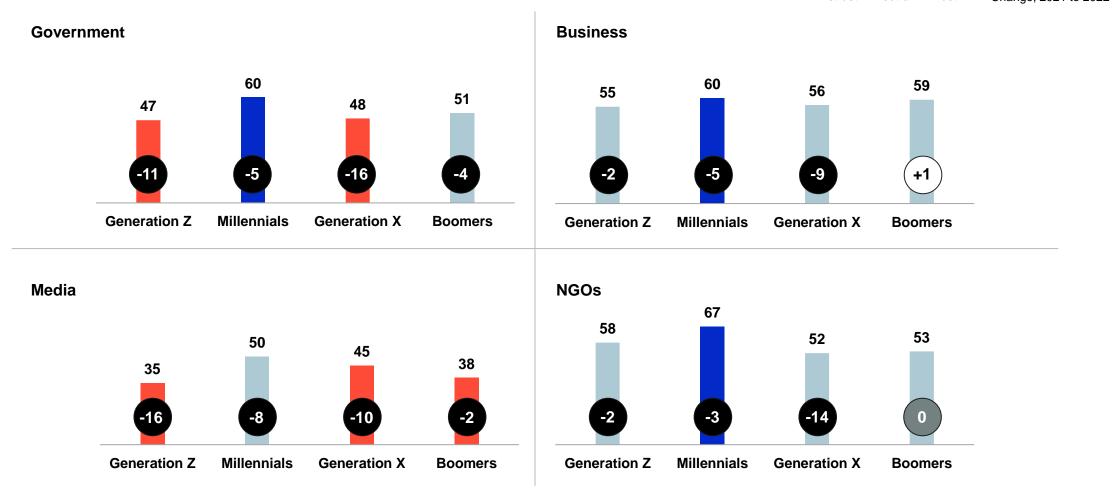




# MILLENNIALS MOST TRUSTING GENERATION; GEN Z LEAST TRUSTING

Per cent trust





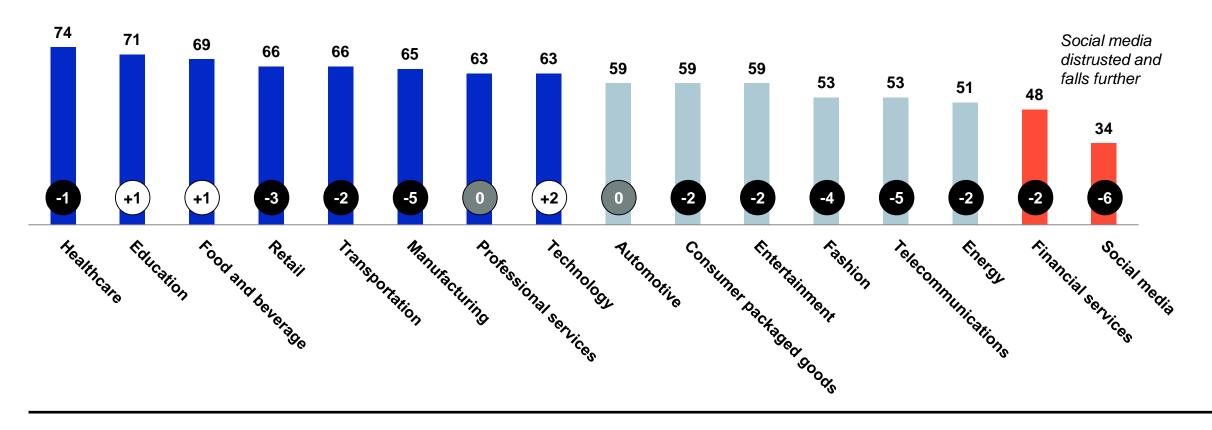




#### TRUST IN MOST INDUSTRY SECTORS DECLINE

Per cent trust, in Australia







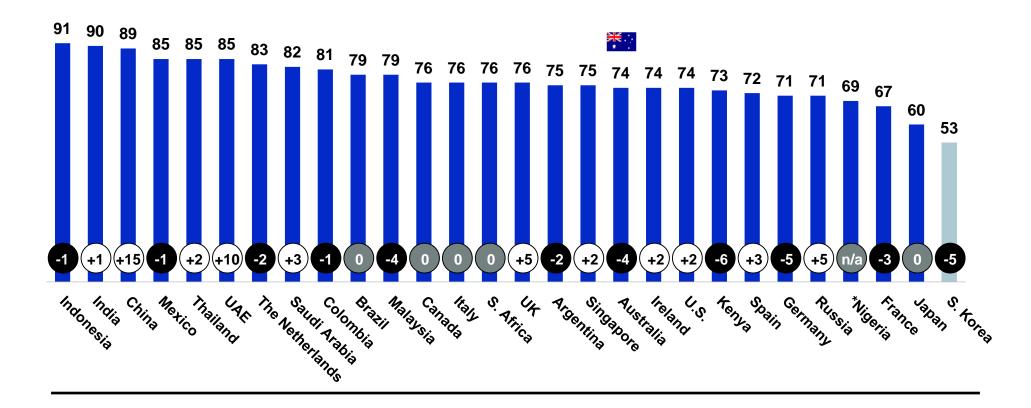
#### MY EMPLOYER REMAINS A BASTION OF TRUST

Per cent trust



#### **Australia**





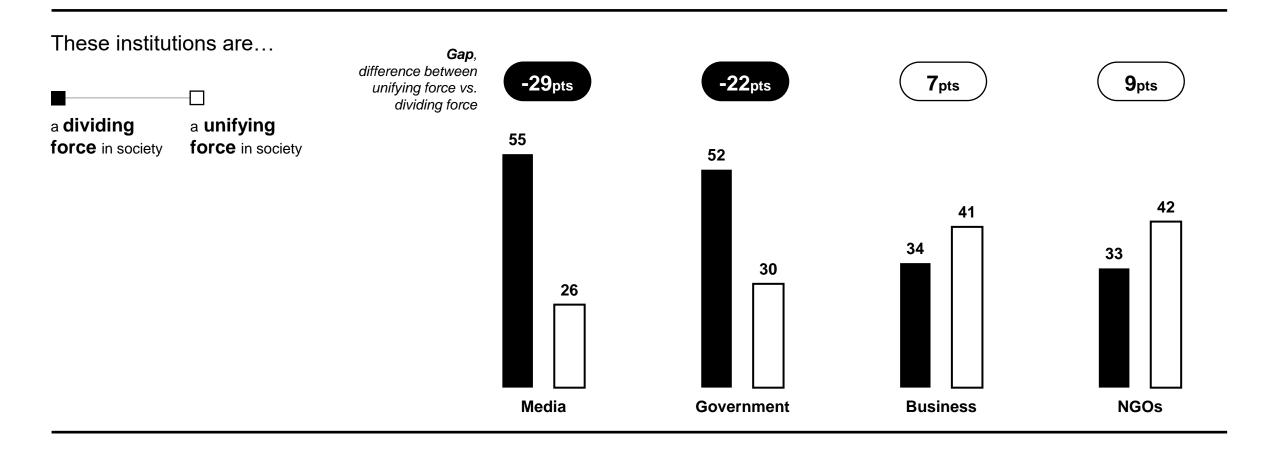






#### **GOVERNMENT AND MEDIA SEEN AS DIVISIVE**

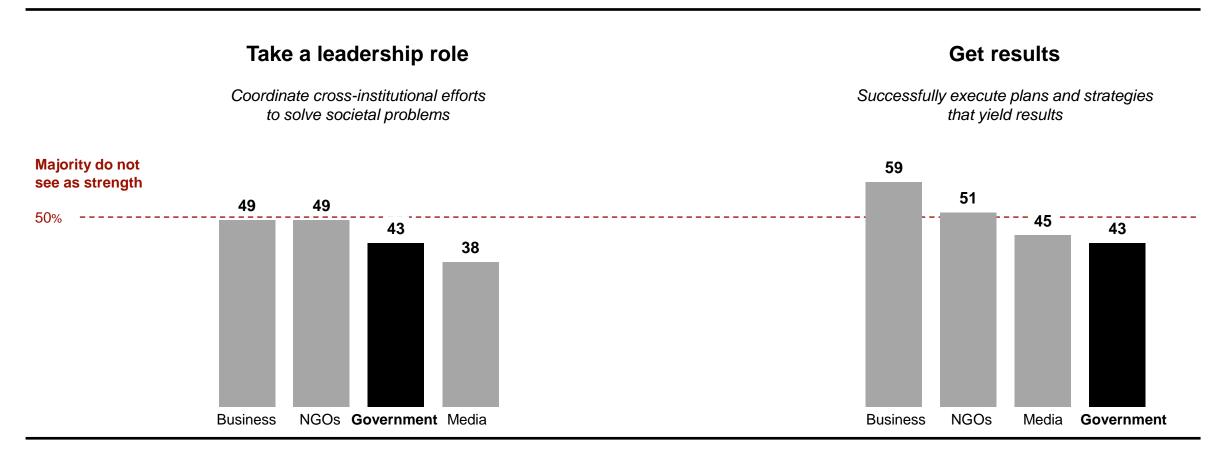
Per cent who say, in Australia





# GOVERNMENT NOT SEEN AS ABLE TO SOLVE SOCIETAL PROBLEMS

Per cent who say each is a strength of institutions, in Australia



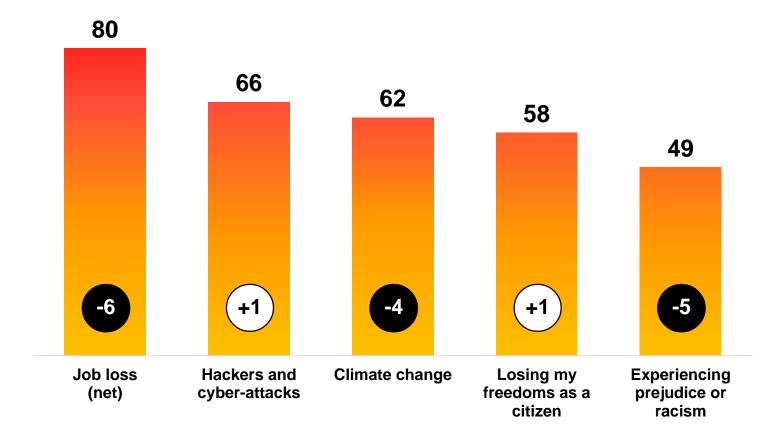




#### PERSISTENT SOCIETAL FEARS IN AUSTRALIA

Per cent who worry about each, in Australia





2022 Edelman Trust Barometer. POP\_EMO. Some people say they worry about many things while others say they have few concerns. We are interested in what you worry about. Specifically, how much do you worry about each of the following? 9-point scale; top 4 box, worry. Non-job loss attributes shown to half of the sample. General population, Australia. Job loss asked of those who are an employee of an organization (Q43/1). Job loss is a net of attributes 1-3, 5, and 22-24.



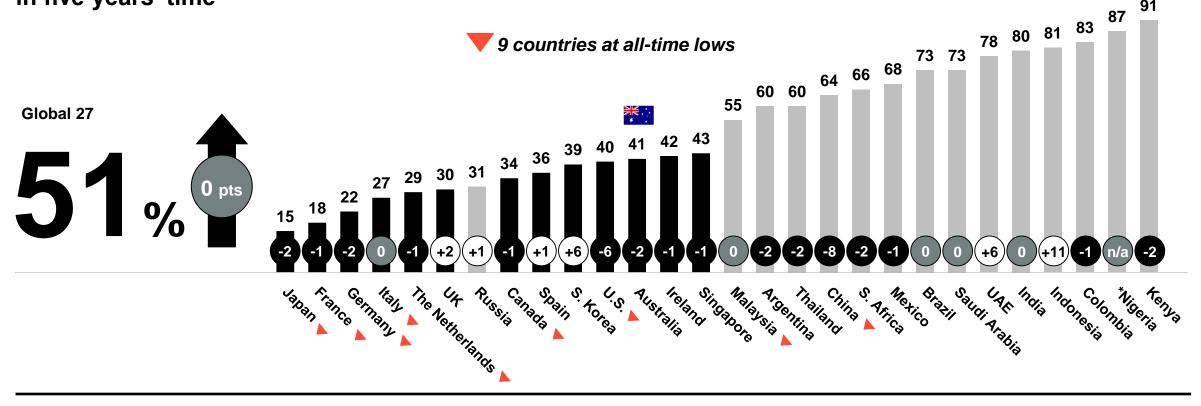
#### **DECLINING ECONOMIC OPTIMISM IN AUSTRALIA**

Per cent who believe they and their families will be better off in five years' time

Developed countries 

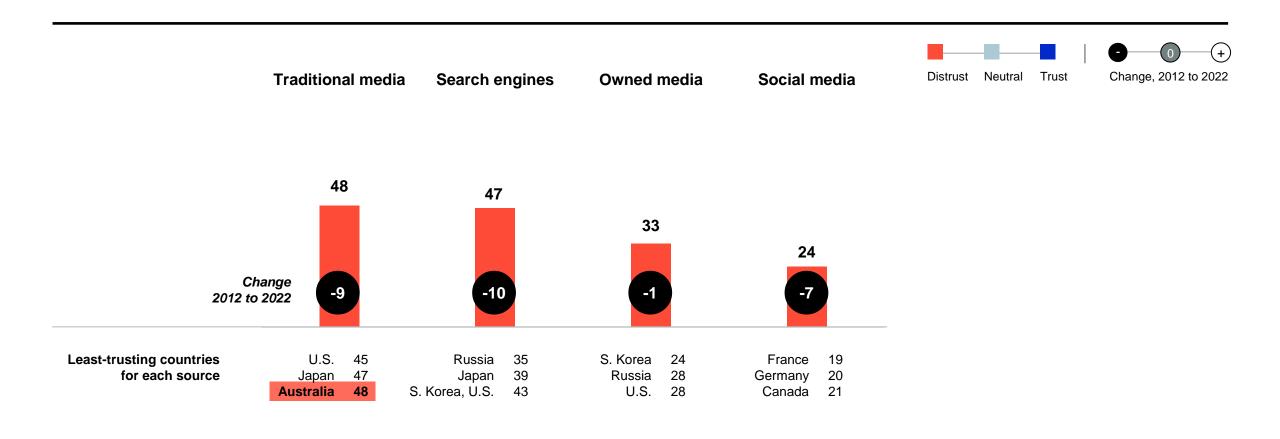
Change, 2021 to 2022

My family and I will be better off in five years' time



#### NEWS SOURCES FAIL TO FIX THEIR TRUST PROBLEM

Per cent trust, in Australia







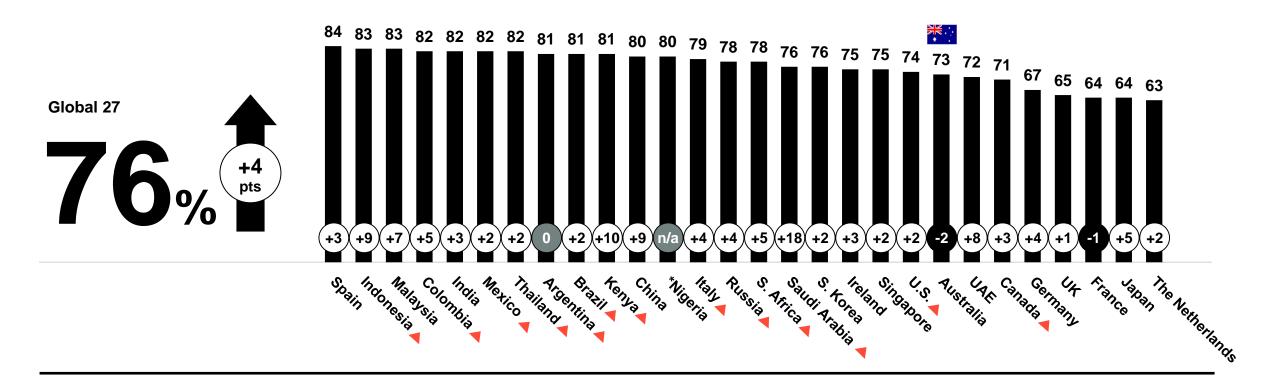
#### **FAKE NEWS CONCERNS AT ALL-TIME HIGHS**

Per cent who agree

Change, 2021 to 2022

All-time high in 13 of 27 countries

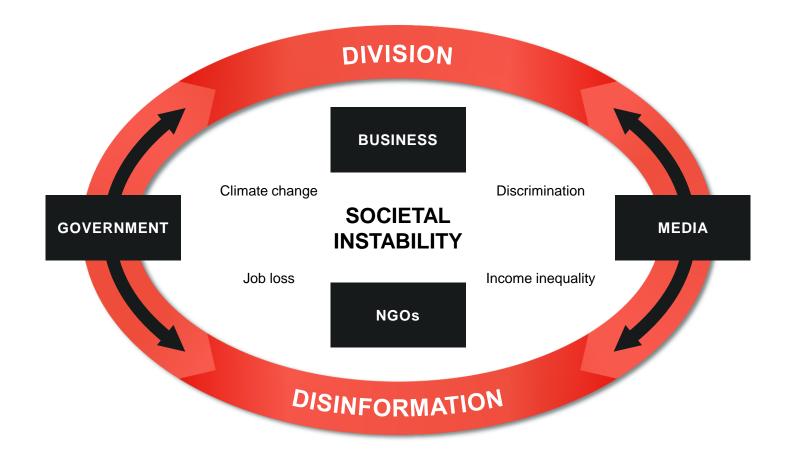
I worry about false information or fake news being used as a weapon



# CYCLE OF DISTRUST THREATENS SOCIETAL STABILITY

**Government and media** feed cycle of division and disinformation for votes and clicks

**NGOs and business** pressured to take on societal problems beyond their abilities





#### CONVINCED WE'RE BEING LIED TO BY SOCIETAL LEADERS

Per cent who worry, in Australia





Journalists and reporters



**Business leaders** 



My country's government leaders

are **purposely trying to mislead people** by saying things they know are false or gross exaggerations

#### DISTRUST IS THE DEFAULT: NO BASIS FOR PEACEFUL DEBATE

Which are you more likely to believe?

My tendency is to distrust until I see evidence that something is trustworthy

My tendency is to trust until I see evidence that something is untrustworthy

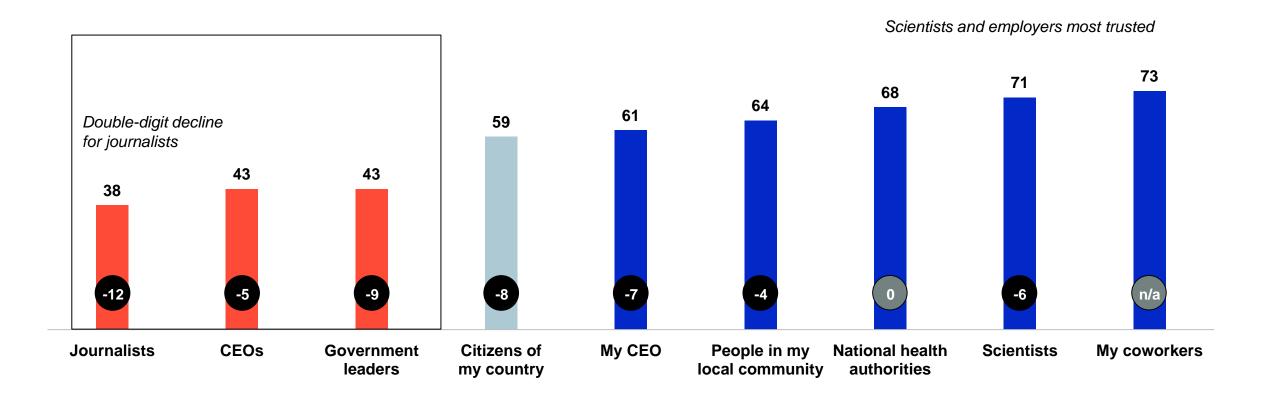
Per cent who agree

People in this country lack the ability to have constructive and civil debates about issues they disagree on

#### TRUST BECOMES PERSONAL

Per cent trust, in Australia









#### ALL STAKEHOLDERS HOLD BUSINESS ACCOUNTABLE

Per cent who agree

In Australia

56%

Buy or advocate for brands based on their beliefs and values **57**%

Choose a place to work based on their beliefs and values 64%

Invest based on their beliefs and values

Global 7

Source: 2021 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Institutional Investors

88%

of **institutional investors**subject ESG to the same scrutiny
as operational and financial
considerations

#### CEOS EXPECTED TO BE THE FACE OF CHANGE

Per cent who say

#### **CEOs should be personally visible**

when discussing public policy with external stakeholders or work their company has done to benefit society When considering a job, I expect the CEO to speak publicly about **controversial social and political** issues that I care about

80 (net) 0/0

60%

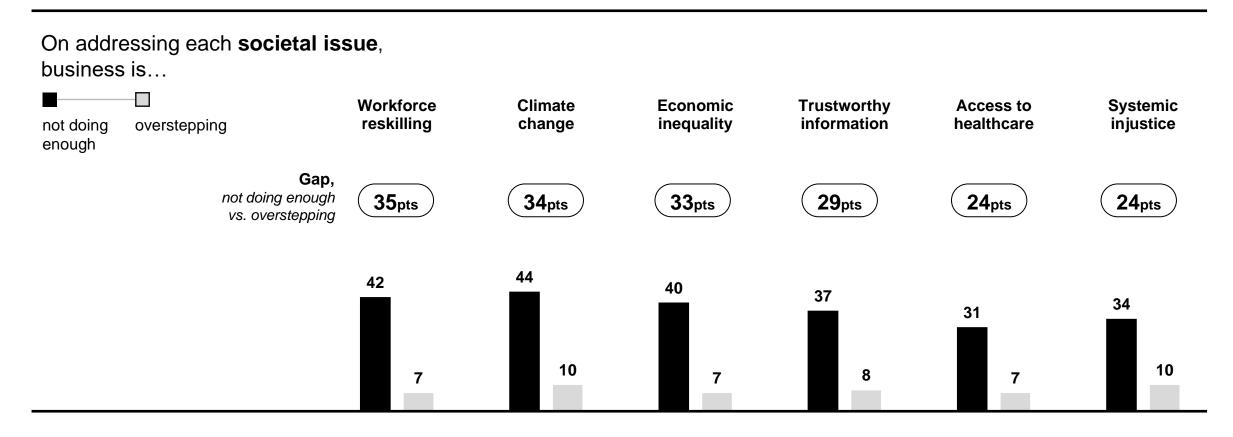
**Among employees** 





#### WANT MORE, NOT LESS, BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT ON SOCIETAL ISSUES

Per cent who say, in Australia

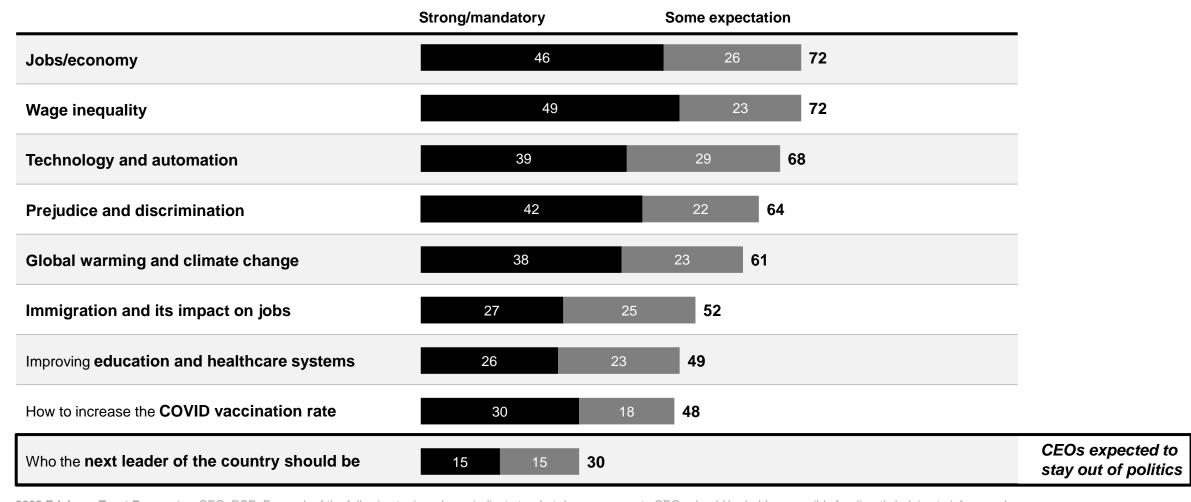






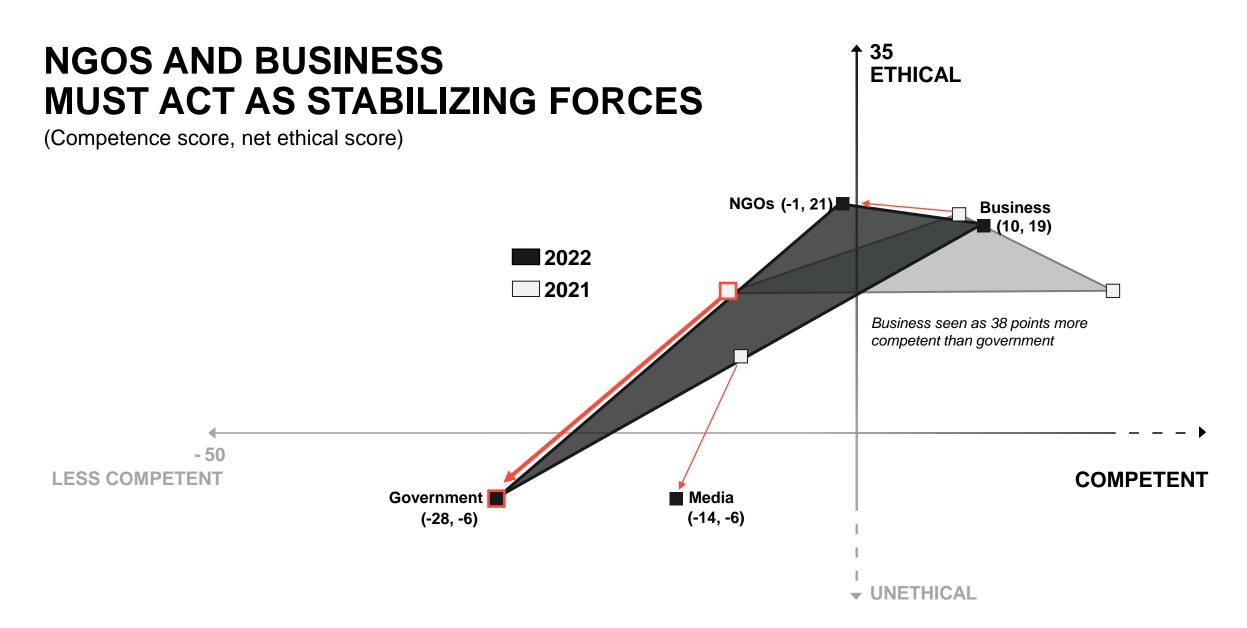
#### CEOS EXPECTED TO INFORM POLICY, NOT POLITICS

Per cent who expect CEOs to **inform and shape conversations and policy debates** about each issue, in Australia





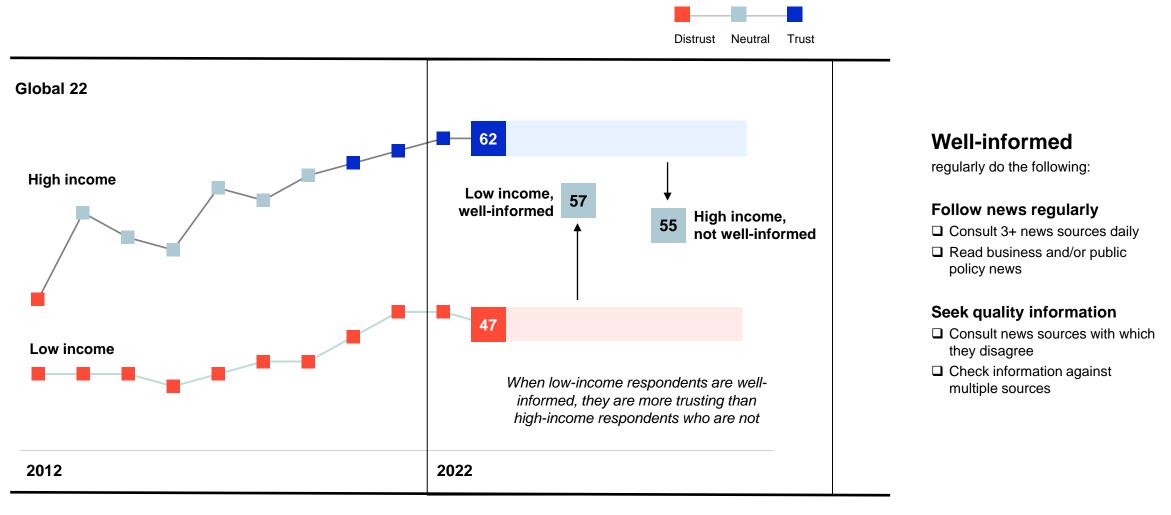






#### GOOD INFORMATION CAN HELP CLOSE THE SOCIETAL DIVIDE

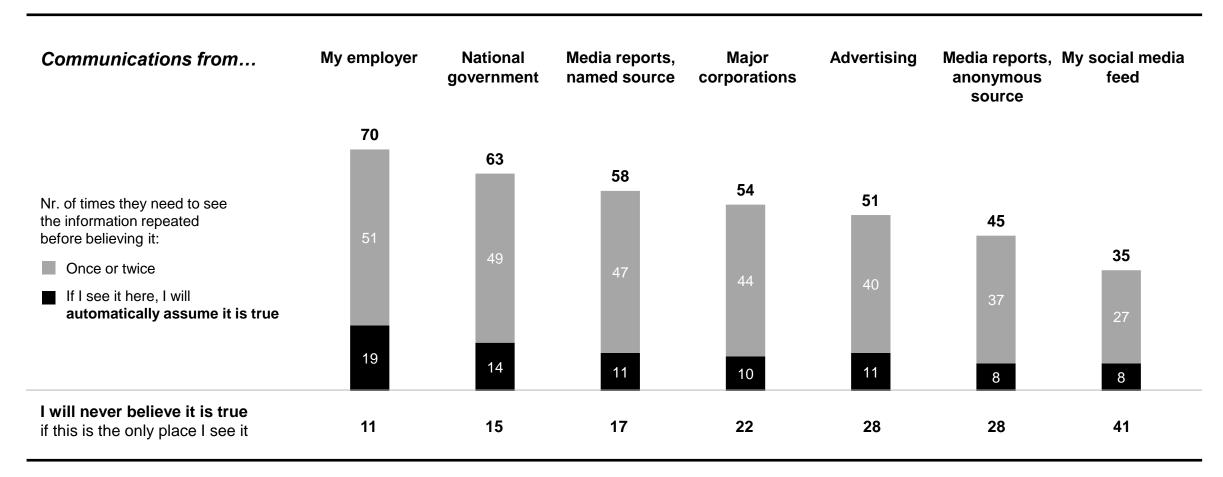
Trust Index



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#### MY EMPLOYER MEDIA MOST BELIEVABLE

Per cent who believe information from each source automatically, or after seeing it twice or less, in Australia





#### INFORMATION QUALITY NOW MOST POWERFUL TRUST BUILDER ACROSS INSTITUTIONS

Potential trust gain associated with doing each well (top 5)

Business	% pt gain
Information quality	3.0
Hold others accountable	2.5
Communication and transparency	2.3
Exert power effectively	2.1
Get results	1.8

NGOs	% pt gain
Information quality	3.2
Exert power effectively	2.4
Work with other institutions and organizations	2.3
Take a leadership role	2.1
Change management	2.0

Government	% pt gain
Information quality	6.1
Take a leadership role	3.7
Exert power effectively	3.5
Long-term thinking and planning	3.2
Hold others accountable	3.2

Media	% pt gain
Information quality	6.6
Communication and transparency	3.2
Exert power effectively	2.5
Change management	2.2
Hold others accountable	2.0

#### **RESTORING TRUST** IS KEY TO SOCIETAL STABILITY

#### Business societal role is here to stay

People want more business leadership, not less.

#### **Demonstrate tangible progress**

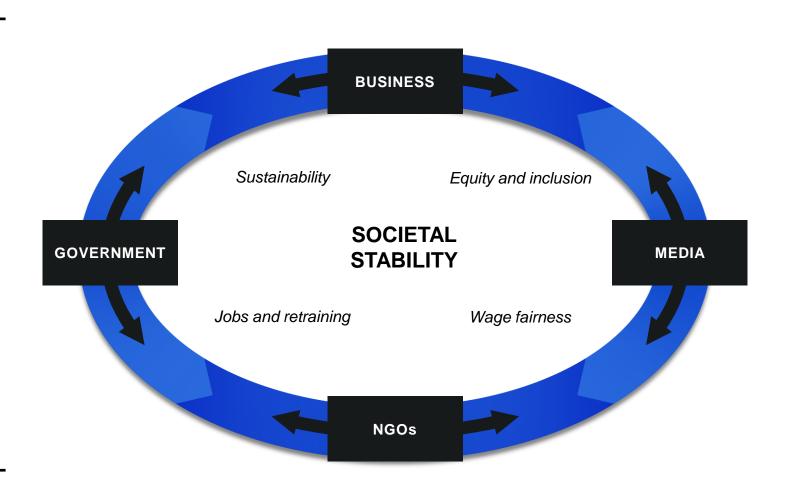
Restore belief in society's ability to build a better future: show the system works.

#### Leadership must focus on long-term thinking

Solutions over divisiveness; long-term thinking over short-term gain.

#### **Every institution must provide** trustworthy information

Clear, consistent, fact-based information is critical to breaking the cycle of distrust.



# TECHNICAL APPENDIX

### 2022 EDELMAN TRUST BAROMETER: SAMPLES SAMPLE SIZE, QUOTAS AND MARGIN OF ERROR

		General Populati	on	Informed Public			
	Sample Size <sup>1</sup>	Quotas Set On <sup>2</sup>	Margin of Error	Sample Size <sup>5</sup>	Quotas Set On <sup>3</sup>	Margin of Error	
Global	31,050	Age, Gender, Region	+/- 0.6% total sample +/- 0.8% half sample	6,000	Age, Education, Gender	+/- 1.3% total sample +/- 1.8% half sample	
China⁴ and U.S.	1,150	Age, Gender, Region	+/- 2.9% total sample +/- 4.1% half sample	500	Age, Education, Gender	+/- 4.4% total sample +/- 6.2% half sample	
Nigeria	1,150	Age, Gender, Region	+/- 2.9% total sample +/- 4.1% half sample	100	Age, Education, Gender	+/- 9.8% total sample +/- 13.9% half sample	
All other countries	1,150	Age, Gender, Region	+/- 2.9% total sample +/- 4.1% half sample	200	Age, Education, Gender	+/- 6.9% total sample +/- 9.8% half sample	

**NOTE:** Because some of the content we ask is deemed politically sensitive there are several countries where we take special precautions in order to avoid putting our respondents, or ourselves, in a position to break any local laws. We work closely with our sample partner and its legal team to identify which questions, and in what countries, we should refrain from asking. The three countries where we removed questions and/or answer options were China, Russia, and Thailand.

- 1. Some questions were asked of only half of the sample. Please refer to the footnotes on each slide for details.
- 2. For the general population, there were additional quotas on ethnicity in the UK and U.S., and on nationality in the UAE and Saudi Arabia.
- 3. For the informed public, there were additional quotas on nationality in the UAE and Saudi Arabia.
- 4. All data collected in China is from the mainland. Regions of Greater China were not surveyed.
- 5. In some cases, all the informed public sample was collected within the general population; some countries required an oversample to reach the desired target.