Country: Australia

Years: 1945 - 1948

Head of government: Joseph Benedict Chifley

Ideology: leftist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identifies Chifley as leftist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Chifley’s party as Australian Labor Party (ALP). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify the ALP as leftist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify ALP as “Left” (-1.635) in 1972. Lansford (2015) identifies ALP as leftist, writing “Australian Labor Party (ALP)… It has long been divided between a moderate, pragmatic wing, which commands a majority in terms of parliamentary representation, and a dogmatically socialist, trade union–oriented left wing, which tends to be more strongly entrenched in the party organization.”

Years: 1949 - 1965

Head of government: Robert Gordon Menzies

Ideology: rightist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Menzies as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Menzies’ party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019), Cruz et al. (2021), and Cahoon (2021) identify LPA as rightist, but Perspective Monde (2021) identifies party as centrist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (0.952) in 1972. In Norris (2020), 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of LPA as 7.8. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

Year: 1966

Head of government: Harold Edward Holt

Ideology: rightist

Description: Contrary to Coppedge et al. (2021), Cahoon (2019) and Schemmel (2019) identify John McEwen instead of Harold Edward Holt as head of government on December 31, 1967. Brambor et al. (2020) identify Holt as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Holt’s party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019), Cruz et al. (2021), and Cahoon (2021) identify LPA as rightist, but Perspective Monde (2021) identifies party as centrist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (.952) in 1972. In Norris (2020), 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of LPA as 7.8. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

Year: 1967

Head of government: John McEwen

Ideology: rightist

Description: Contrary to Coppedge et al. (2021), Cahoon (2019) and Schemmel (2019) identify John McEwen instead of Harold Edward Holt as head of government on December 31, 1967. Brambor et al. (2020) identify McEwen as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify McEwen’s party as Country National Party (CNT). Armingeon et al. (2019) identify CNT as rightist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify CNT as “Center-right” (1.412) in 1972.

Years: 1968 - 1970

Head of government: John Grey Gorton

Ideology: rightist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Gorton as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Gorton’s party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019), Cruz et al. (2021), and Cahoon (2021) identify LPA as rightist, but Perspective Monde (2021) identifies party as centrist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (.952) in 1972. In Norris (2020), 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of LPA as 7.8. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

Year: 1971

Head of government: William McMahon

Ideology: rightist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify McMahon as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify McMahon’s party as Liberal Party (LP). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify the Liberal Party (LPA) as rightist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (.952) in 1972. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

Years: 1972 - 1974

Head of government: Edward Gough Whitlam

Ideology: leftist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Whitlam as leftist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Whitlam’s party as Australian Labor Party (ALP). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify ALP as leftist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify ALP as “Left” (-1.635) in 1972 and 1974. Lansford (2015) identifies ALP as leftist, writing “Australian Labor Party (ALP)… It has long been divided between a moderate, pragmatic wing, which commands a majority in terms of parliamentary representation, and a dogmatically socialist, trade union–oriented left wing, which tends to be more strongly entrenched in the party organization.”

Years: 1975 - 1982

Head of government: John Malcolm Fraser

Ideology: rightist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Fraser as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Fraser’s party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify the LPA as rightist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (.952) in 1975, 1977 and 1980. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

Years: 1982 - 1990

Head of government: Robert James Lee Hawke

Ideology: leftist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Hawke as leftist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Hawke’s party as Australian Labor Party (ALP). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify the ALP’s ideology as leftist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify ALP as “Center-left” (-.805) in 1983, 1984, 1987 and 1990. Lansford (2015) identifies ALP as leftist, writing “Australian Labor Party (ALP)… It has long been divided between a moderate, pragmatic wing, which commands a majority in terms of parliamentary representation, and a dogmatically socialist, trade union–oriented left wing, which tends to be more strongly entrenched in the party organization.”

Years: 1991 - 1995

Head of government: Paul John Keating

Ideology: leftist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Keating as leftist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Keating’s party as Australian Labor Party (ALP). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify ALP as leftist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify ALP as “Center-left” (-.805) in 1990 and 1993. Lansford (2015) identifies ALP as leftist, writing “Australian Labor Party (ALP)… It has long been divided between a moderate, pragmatic wing, which commands a majority in terms of parliamentary representation, and a dogmatically socialist, trade union–oriented left wing, which tends to be more strongly entrenched in the party organization.”

Years: 1996 - 2006

Head of government: John Winston Howard

Ideology: rightist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Howard as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Howard’s party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify the LPA as rightist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (.952) in 1972. Lansford (2013) identifies the LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.” Lansford (2015) writes “A declared monarchist and “Thatcherite,” Howard moved to a more centrist stance for the March 1996 federal election and led the Liberals to a landslide lower house victory, forming a government that again included the National Party.”

Years: 2007 - 2009

Head of government: Kevin Michael Rudd

Ideology: leftist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Rudd as leftist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Rudd’s party as Australian Labor Party (ALP). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify the ALP as leftist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify ALP as “Center-left” (-.805) in 2007. Lansford (2015) identifies the ALP’s ideology as leftist, writing “Australian Labor Party (ALP)… It has long been divided between a moderate, pragmatic wing, which commands a majority in terms of parliamentary representation, and a dogmatically socialist, trade union–oriented left wing, which tends to be more strongly entrenched in the party organization.”

Years: 2010 - 2012

Head of government: Julia Eileen Gillard

Ideology: leftist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify Gillard as leftist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Gillard’s party as Australian Labor Party (ALP). Armingeon et al. (2019) and Cruz et al. (2021) identify ALP as leftist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify ALP as “Center-left” (-.805) in 2010. Lansford (2015) identifies ALP as leftist, writing “Australian Labor Party (ALP)… It has long been divided between a moderate, pragmatic wing, which commands a majority in terms of parliamentary representation, and a dogmatically socialist, trade union–oriented left wing, which tends to be more strongly entrenched in the party organization.”

Years: 2013-2014

Head of government: Anthony Abbott

Ideology: rightist

Description: Contrary to Coppedge et al. (2021), Cahoon (2019) and Schemmel (2019) identify Anthony Abbott instead of Kevin Michael Rudd as head of government on December 31, 2013. Brambor et al. (2020) identify Abbott as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify Abbott’s party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019), Cruz et al. (2021), and Cahoon (2021) identify LPA as rightist, but Perspective Monde (2021) identifies party as centrist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (1.363) in 2013. In Norris (2020), 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of LPA as 7.8. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

Years: 2015 - 2017

Head of government: Malcolm Turnbull

Ideology: rightist

Description: Brambor et al. (2020) identify ideology as rightist. Mattes et al. (2016) identify party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019), Cruz et al. (2021), and Cahoon (2021) identify LPA as rightist, but Perspective Monde (2021) identifies party as centrist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (1.363) in 2013 and “Center-right” (.931) in 2016. In Norris (2020), 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of LPA as 7.8. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

Years: 2018-2020

Head of government: Scott Morrison

Ideology: rightist

Description: Coppedge et al. (2021) identify Morrison’s party as Liberal Party (LPA). Armingeon et al. (2019), Cruz et al. (2021), and Cahoon (2021) identify LPA as rightist, but Perspective Monde (2021) identifies party as centrist. In Lührmann et al. (2020), 3 experts identify LPA as “Center-right” (1.931) in 2016 and 2019. In Norris (2020), 15 experts identify the average left-right (0-10) score of LPA as 7.8. Lansford (2013) identifies LPA as rightist, writing the “Liberal Party of Australia (LPA)… represents an amalgamation of traditional liberals and conservatives with strong ties to the business community. […] They are skeptical about welfare, affirmative action, immigration, conservation, and the Third World.”

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