

Understanding the ACT's new Climate Change Strategy 8 October 2019

Summary

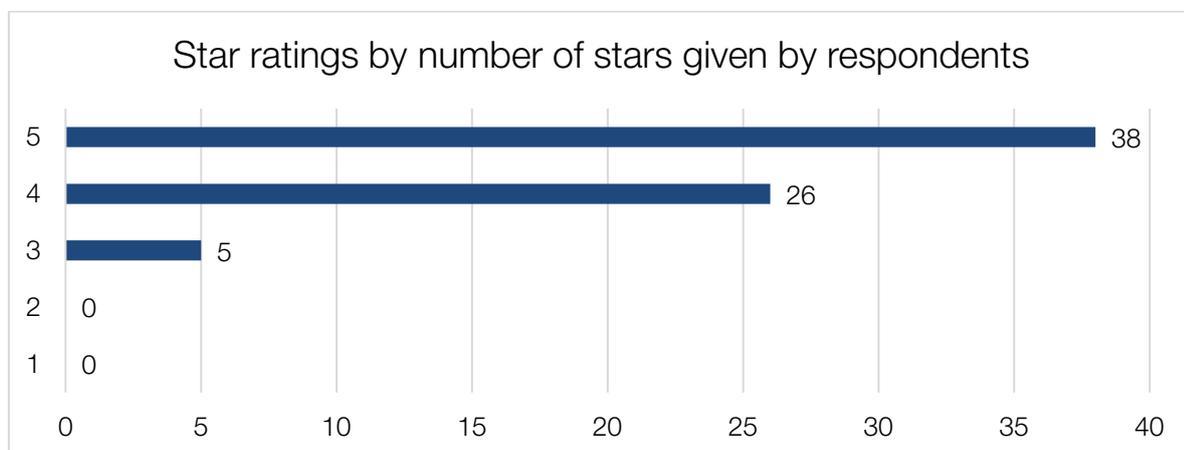
The ANU Climate Change Institute co-hosted an event with the ANU Energy Change Institute called *Understanding the ACT's new Climate Change Strategy*, on Tuesday 8 October 2019 at the Kambri Cinema. At the event, Shane Rattenbury, ACT Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, explained the new ACT 2019-2025 Climate Change Strategy, Canberra's Living Infrastructure Plan and future directions for ACT climate policy. He was joined by a panel of ANU experts who gave their perspectives on the plan followed by a Q&A session. The panel included Dr Arnagretta Hunter (ANU Medical School), Dr Matthew Stocks (ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science) and Associate Professor Cris Brack (ANU Fenner School of Environment & Society). The event was moderated by Prof Mark Howden (Director, ANU Climate Change Institute). More information and resources for the event can be accessed on the webpage - <https://climate.anu.edu.au/news-events/events/understanding-acts-new-climate-change-strategy>

Methodology

The event sold 442 tickets and 230 people turned up to the event. Of the participants, 73 people (31%) responded to the online survey that was sent to them via email (copy at the end of this report). The information below is a summary of their feedback.

Star Rating

The survey form began with a chance for respondents to give the event a star rating out of a possible 5 stars. This question was also available on the email and acted as a link to the rest of the survey online. The event was given a weighted average of 4.48 stars overall.



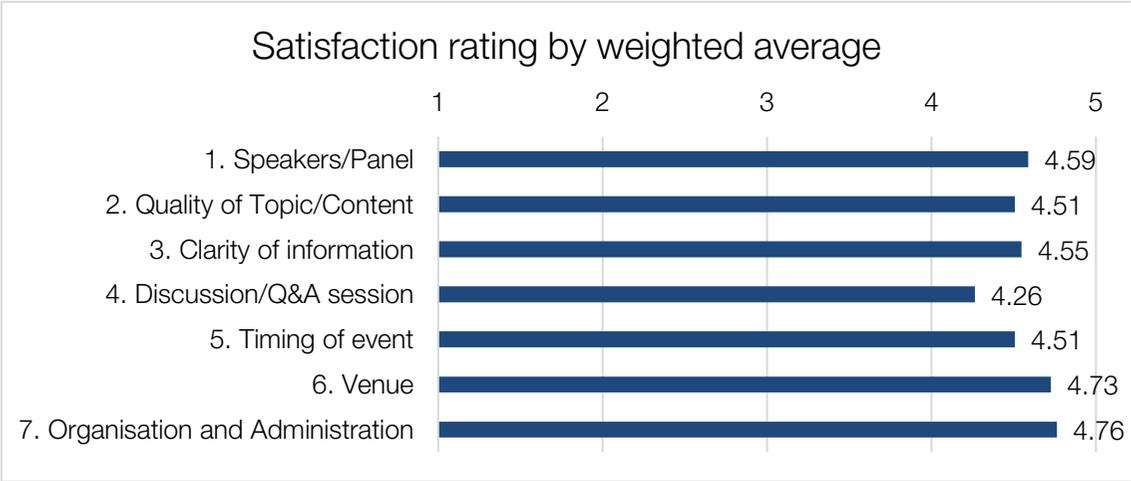
Based on 95% of respondents who answered this question

Satisfaction Ratings by category

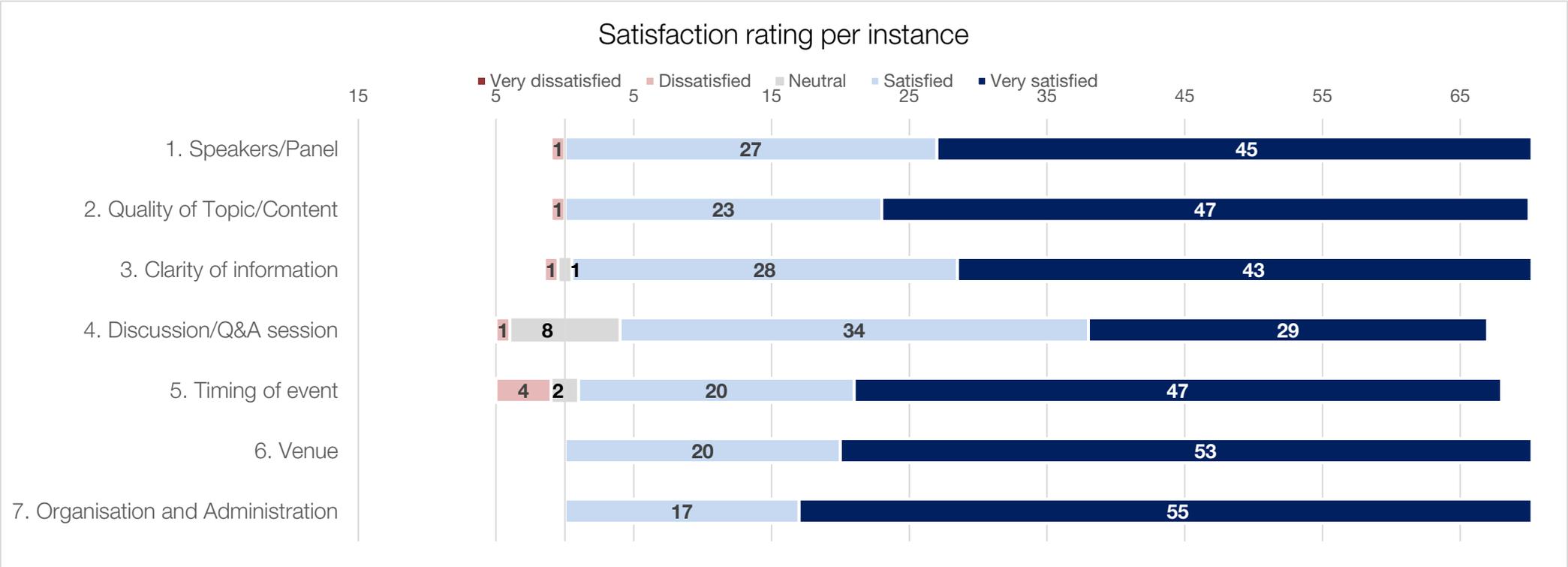
Participants were asked how satisfied they were with particular aspects of the event. They were given a choice between Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Neutral, Dissatisfied and Very Dissatisfied. Each ranking was given a weighting of 5 (very satisfied) to 1 (very dissatisfied). Below are two graphs, one showing the weighted averages and the other the counts of each rating within each category. Respondents were also given the opportunity to comment on their ratings. These are listed below.

A sample of comments by respondents:

- Excellent evening all around
- Although I am one of many who suffers from a form of depression - brought on by climate change knowledge, I found that the speakers projected facts, vulnerabilities and hope or attempt at solutions. I walked away, with some hope as well as confirmed pride in our Minister.
- The topic was appropriate and timely organized. The right panellist for the event and how the Q&A was organised even prior to the event was good.
- I thought the whole thing went very well. I thought the Q&A was good and would have liked to have had more of it, but I also realise that time is not infinitely elastic :)
- I liked the range of things covered, including what we can actually do ourselves, which gave it a positive note to leave on. Also liked the clarity of presentation
- good data-driven presentations
- quite good!
- Shane Rattenbury was excellent and I believe his integrity rubbed off on the other panel members.
- Good diversity of topics that covered different aspects of the Climate Change Strategy
- All subjects are important but the time was short
- The minister's presentation was that of an informed person not one who would have presented from a political stand point. I loved that he has shown full buy in and support of the whole strategy, comparing to what is happening back in Africa this is inspiring.
- I learned a lot, and I was reassured that change is possible.
- I applaud the organisers and speakers of this event. I love the collaboration of government and academic/scientific institutions. It gave me hope and enthusiasm. The ACT government's informed pro-active initiatives are fantastic and make me very proud to live here. And I think it's courageous for a government minister to engage in dialogue on this subject, and to speak so knowledgeably about his portfolio (one of many). Such a contrast to the behaviour of the federal Coalition parliamentarians. Bravo!! Please schedule more. Many of the issues could well do with their own session.
- Well done on your events.
- Well organized
- A 6pm start may have helped some others arrive on time esp if they were coming from work
- 1.5hr is a bit too long for an event starting at 5:30 - I had to leave at 6:30 so that I can still through the things I need to do after work.
- A networking event afterwards would have been nice to connect to people afterwards
- The time for Q&A was too short, not all questions could be attended too.
- The health discussion could have focussed more on the health impacts of heatwaves & how to mitigate them. Discussion of trees didn't comment on design of new suburbs with huge houses occupying almost entire blocks with no space for water-absorbing tree-shading gardens or substantial street trees. Many pertinent questions remained unanswered e.g. orienting street layouts in new suburbs to orient houses to maximise potential solar generation & shading, public transport routes in suburbs (& even through the ANU itself). Vevox is all very well but it discourages people who have asked an online question that has attracted quite a lot of support from putting up a hand to ask the same question in order to get an answer rather than leaving the question languishing due to the time limit & Vevox ratings competition.
- Most of the speakers were great. The change of line-up should perhaps have been advertised.
- Most of the information provided by now so I assume is common knowledge. The hot topic of water preservation and the need for all of us and industries to consume less water and preserve this liquid life force was insufficiently covered
- Q&A too short. After conference, panel disappeared too quickly.



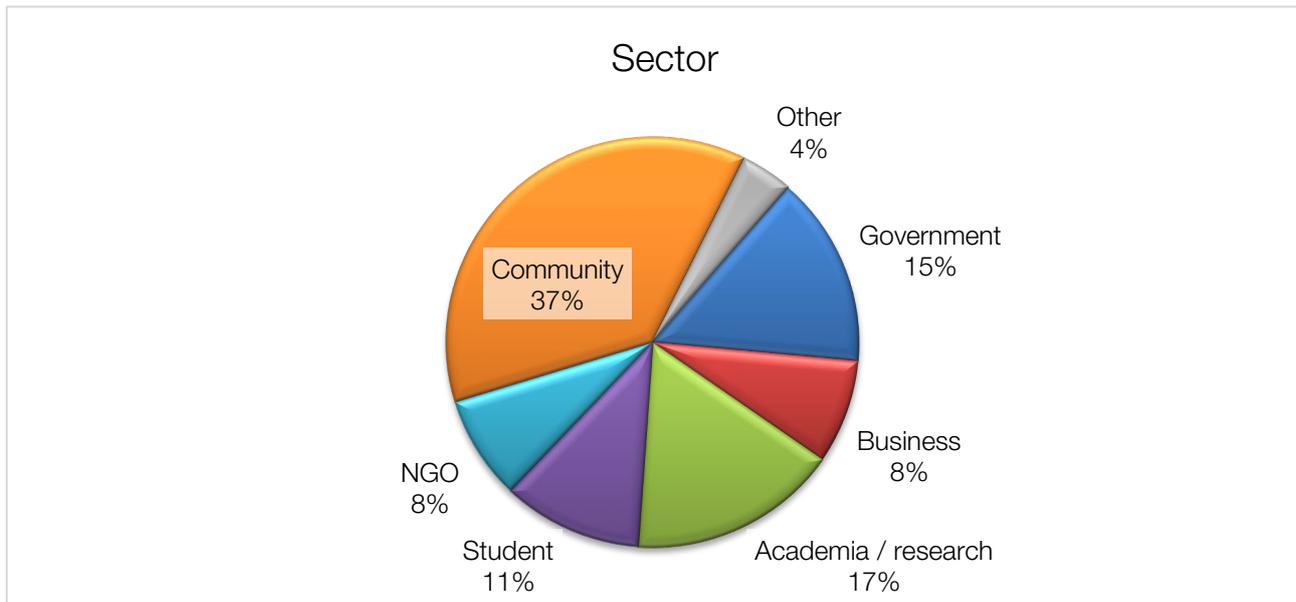
Based on 99-100% of respondents who answered this question



Based on 99-100% of respondents who answered this question

Sector

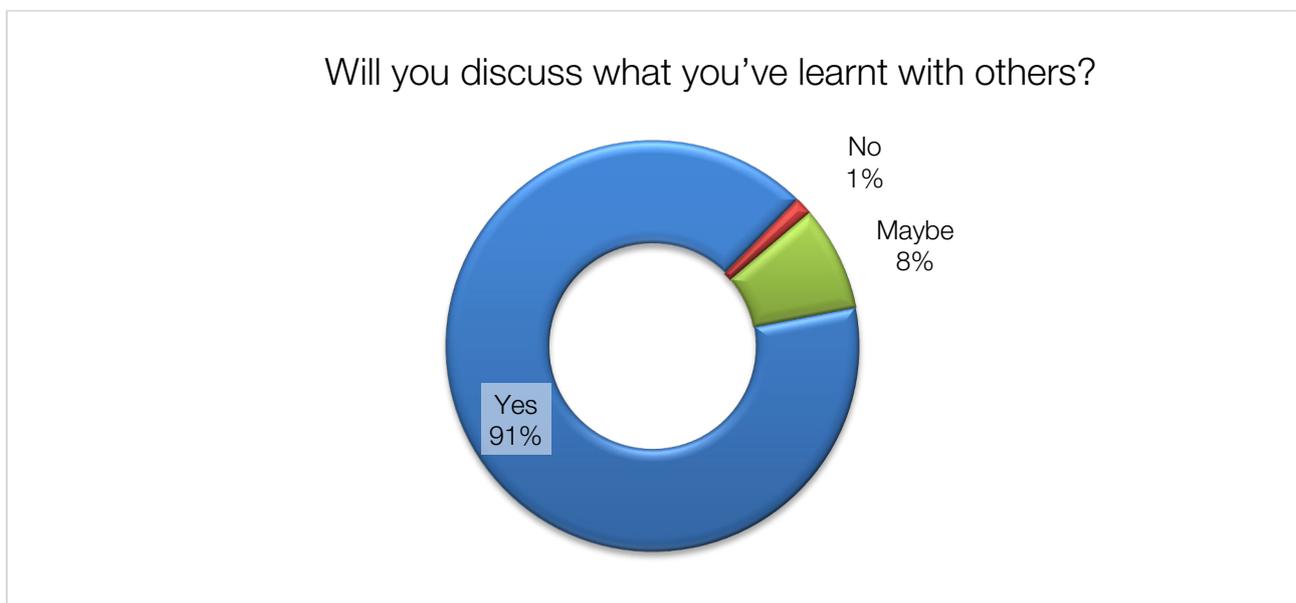
Participants were asked what sector they best represent at the event.



Based on 100% of respondents who answered this question

Impact of event on respondents

When asked if they would discuss what they learned from the event with others, a vast majority of respondents (91%) said yes.



Based on 100% of respondents who answered this question

Additional comments

Additional comments were mostly to say thanks for the great event. A sample of these:

- Latecomers were distracting and could have gone to back of theatre
- Excellent conference. Nice to be given contact details for the panel.

- It would be great to have some events targeted at specific issues like housing and transport to dig deeper into these areas
- This could be repeated at another venue to get more citizens to participate
- It would be great to include the information about live streaming with the initial email so others who are unable to attend would know in advance how to access the presentations which were excellent
- It was a great event but disappointing there was only one woman on the panel. Given CCI has lots of members would it have been too hard to find enough speakers for a gender balanced panel?
- Affirming to know that despite the Federal Government inertia in the area, others in Australia are making big strides, including our own ACT.
- We need the majority on board for climate action - making partisan games like setting up the Greens as only Party that cares, in opposition to the rest of the people of Canberra is not helping, even if it did make the people in the room feel morally superior. It's an obstacle to mainstream endorsement of action - while the greens do this for votes and funding, I'm disappointed in ANU for playing into the childish partisan games
- It was an informative event
- Can we have a presentation on actions individual can take to reduce or offset our carbon footprints, including long-distance transport. Can air travel be made less damaging (& what are the facts & emissions comparisons of air travel across our continent & to other continents?) Note that older people may have limited years of reasonable health to travel, & have medical reasons to preclude cycling or walking very long distances.
- I really liked the range of expertise in the speakers
- A good explanation of the ACT Government strategy that alerted me to some specific issues, such as the energy rating of rental properties.
- The challenges are very important and requires the contribution of the whole world
- I wish I had full access to the powers that be and sensitize them to what others of their calibre are doing.
- Thank you!
- A well-run informative event of great political, social and topical value. Well done
- Fabulous. Please schedule more where we can hear about the issues in more detail. Break it down into a series of topics around which discussions are held every 6 weeks. Let's work out how we can get more involved and stay closely in touch with the leadership of this government and its informed colleagues.
- With planting of trees... what sort of trees can I plant, where can I plant and when can I plant?
- Great to hear about the strategies, gives hope.
- Australians needs to be more appreciative of the efforts the government and the ACT as a collective has done!
- It's unfortunate it feels like an echo chamber, but I do my best to remember it is important to learn about and discuss these topics with likeminded people before going forth to share them.
- The 'critique' was a bit of a red herring!
- I like action on water preservation now
- Really great session. Great to see the ACT is doing something.

The ANU Climate Change Institute (CCI) is seeking your feedback on this event. We'd like to learn from you so that we can improve the value of future events for attendees.

By voluntarily completing this evaluation, you provide your informed consent to participate: *I have read and understood the Information Sheet you have given me about the research project, and I have had any questions and concerns about the project addressed to my satisfaction.*

Please complete the questions below and select submit when done.

Thank you for participating in today's event, and for taking the time to complete this evaluation. We really appreciate you sharing your perspectives with us. If you have any questions about this or future events, please email climate@anu.edu.au

1. How would you rate this event?

1 star	2 stars	3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
				

2. How satisfied were you with each of the following:

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Speakers/Panel	<input type="radio"/>				
Quality of Topic/Content	<input type="radio"/>				
Clarity of information	<input type="radio"/>				
Discussion/Q&A session	<input type="radio"/>				
Timing of event	<input type="radio"/>				
Venue	<input type="radio"/>				
Organisation and Administration	<input type="radio"/>				
Please comment about your ratings.	<input type="text"/>				

3. What sector are you from? (Please tick the sector which best represents you at this event.)

- Government
- Business
- Academia / research
- Student
- NGO
- Community
- Other (please specify)

4. Will you discuss what you've learnt from the event with others?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

5. Please provide any additional comments here.