

D Grade Round 1

That the government should prohibit businesses from being cashless

Background:

In recent years, many businesses have moved to cashless systems, where transactions are made exclusively via credit/debit cards, mobile payments, or other digital methods. The primary motivation behind this shift is to streamline operations, reduce the risk of handling cash, and cater to consumer preferences for convenience and efficiency. However, the rise of cashless transactions has sparked concerns about accessibility, inclusivity, and privacy, leading to questions about whether the government should intervene and prohibit businesses from being cashless.

Questions for consideration:

- What groups of people rely on or prefer to use cash? How do cashless businesses impact them?
- How does digital payment impact privacy? What are the risks of data collection and surveillance in a cashless economy?
- How do cashless systems benefit businesses?
- How do cashless systems benefit consumers?
- How can individuals who are excluded from cashless transactions be supported by other policy approaches?

Resources:

<https://www.timeout.com/sydney/news/more-than-half-of-australian-businesses-want-to-transform-to-fully-cashless-in-2025-121924>

<https://www.thebalancemoney.com/pros-and-cons-of-moving-to-a-cashless-society-4160702>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-06-12/cashless-backlash-boycott-threats-from-consumers/102462556>

<https://www.9news.com.au/national/campaign-against-cashless-revolution-launched-by-federal-mps/157a2803-3833-4a7f-9770-64c729331143>

<https://au.finance.yahoo.com/news/major-revolt-against-australias-cashless-revolution-as-threats-of-one-star-reviews-emerge-200701354.html>