

The Essential Report

State voting intention – Oct-Dec 2015





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Prepared by: Essential Research

Data supplied:



Essential Media Communications is a member of
the Association of Market and Social Research Organisations.



Our researchers are members of
the Australian Market and Social Research Society

About the poll

This report summarises the results of a weekly omnibus conducted by Essential Research with data provided by Your Source. The polling was conducted online from October to December 2015.

Sample sizes were NSW 3,205, Queensland 1,873 and Victoria 2,402, South Australia 797 and Western Australia 946.

The methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix on page 9.

Note that due to rounding, not all tables necessarily total 100% and subtotals may also vary.

The two-party preferred vote is calculated based on estimated preference distribution of the previous election – except for Queensland which is based on an average of the two previous elections.

State voting intention - NSW

*Q. If a State Election was held today to which party will you probably give your first preference vote?
If not sure, which party are you currently leaning toward?*

	Election Mar 2015	Oct-Dec 2015	October	November	December
<i>Sample</i>		3,205	1,170	1,162	873
First preference vote					
Liberal/National	45.6%	48%	48%	48%	47%
Labor	34.1%	33%	34%	33%	33%
Greens	10.3%	10%	9%	9%	11%
Other/Independent	10.0%	10%	10%	10%	10%
2PP					
Liberal/National	54.3%	56%	56%	56%	56%
Labor	45.7%	44%	44%	44%	44%

State voting intention - Queensland

*Q. If a State Election was held today to which party will you probably give your first preference vote?
If not sure, which party are you currently leaning toward?*

	Election Jan 2015	Oct-Dec 2015	October	November	December
<i>Sample</i>		<i>1,873</i>	<i>688</i>	<i>672</i>	<i>513</i>
First preference vote					
LNP	41.3%	42%	42%	41%	45%
Labor	37.5%	39%	40%	39%	37%
Greens	8.4%	8%	8%	9%	7%
Palmer United Party	5.1%				
Katter Party	1.9%	3%	3%	2%	4%
Other/Independent	5.8%	8%	8%	9%	8%
2PP					
LNP	48.9%	50%	49%	49%	53%
Labor	51.1%	50%	51%	51%	47%

State voting intention - Victoria

*Q. If a State Election was held today to which party will you probably give your first preference vote?
If not sure, which party are you currently leaning toward?*

	Election Nov 2014	Oct-Dec 2015	October	November	December
<i>Sample</i>		2,402	882	870	650
First preference vote					
Liberal/National	42.0%	40%	41%	39%	40%
Labor	38.1%	38%	36%	38%	41%
Greens	11.5%	13%	14%	12%	10%
Other/Independent	8.4%	9%	9%	10%	9%
2PP					
Liberal/National	48.0%	47%	47%	46%	46%
Labor	52.0%	53%	53%	54%	54%

State voting intention – South Australia

*Q. If a State Election was held today to which party will you probably give your first preference vote?
If not sure, which party are you currently leaning toward?*

	Election Mar 2014	Oct-Dec 2015
<i>Sample</i>		797
First preference vote		
Liberal	44.8%	32%
Labor	35.8%	39%
Greens	8.7%	10%
Other/Independent	10.7%	19%
2PP		
Liberal	53.0%	46%
Labor	47.0%	54%

State voting intention – Western Australia

*Q. If a State Election was held today to which party will you probably give your first preference vote?
If not sure, which party are you currently leaning toward?*

	Election Mar 2013	Oct-Dec 2015
<i>Sample</i>		946
First preference vote		
Liberal	47.1%	37%
National	6.1%	6%
Labor	33.1%	35%
Greens	8.4%	12%
Other/Independent	5.3%	10%
2PP		
Liberal/National	57.3%	51%
Labor	42.7%	49%

Appendix: Methodology, margin of error and professional standards

The data gathered for this report is gathered from a weekly online omnibus conducted by Your Source. Essential Research has been utilizing the Your Source online panel to conduct research on a week-by-week basis since November 2007.

Each week, the team at Essential Media Communications discusses issues that are topical and a series of questions are devised to put to the Australian public. Some questions are repeated regularly (such as political preference and leadership approval), while others are unique to each week and reflect media and social issues that are present at the time.

Your Source has a self-managed consumer online panel of over 100,000 members. The majority of panel members have been recruited using off line methodologies, effectively ruling out concerns associated with online self-selection.

Your Source has validation methods in place that prevent panellist over use and ensure member authenticity. Your Source randomly selects 18+ males and females (with the aim of targeting 50/50 males/females) from its Australia wide panel. An invitation is sent out to approximately 7000 – 8000 of their panel members.

The response rate varies each week, but usually delivers 1000+ interviews. In theory, with a sample of this size, there is 95 per cent certainty that the results are within 3 percentage points of what they would be if the entire population had been polled. However, this assumes random sampling, which, because of non-response and less than 100% population coverage cannot be achieved in practice. Furthermore, there are other possible sources of error in all polls including question wording and question order, interviewer bias (for telephone and face-to-face polls), response errors and weighting. The best guide to a poll's accuracy is to look at the record of the polling company - how have they performed at previous elections or other occasions where their estimates can be compared with known population figures. In the last poll before the 2010 election, the Essential Report estimates of first preference votes were all within 1% of the election results.

The Your Source online omnibus is live from the Wednesday night of each week and closed on the following Sunday. Incentives are offered to participants in the form of points. Essential Research uses the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software to analyse the data. The data is weighted against Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data.

All Essential Research and senior Your Source staff hold Australian Market and Social Research Society (AMSRS) membership and are bound by professional codes of behaviour. Your Source is an Australian social and market research company specializing in recruitment, field research, data gathering and data analysis. Essential Research is a member of the Association Market and Social Research Organisations (AMSRO). Your Source holds Interviewer Quality Control Australia (IQCA) accreditation, Association Market and Social Research Organisations (AMSRO) membership and World Association of Opinion and Marketing Research Professionals (ESOMAR) membership. Both Essential Research and Your Source are ISO accredited market research companies. This research was conducted in compliance with AS: ISO20252 guidelines.