

The Essential Report

22 March 2016

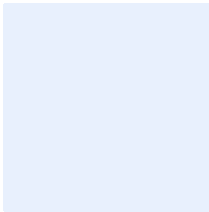


The Essential Report

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Prepared By: Essential Research

Data Supplied:



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About this poll

This report summarises the results of a weekly omnibus conducted by Essential Research with data provided by Your Source. The survey was conducted online from the 16th to 20th March 2016 and is based on 1,003 respondents.

Aside from the standard question on voting intention, this week's report includes questions on sexual harassment, the ABCC, plebiscites and Tony Abbott.

The methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix on page 11.

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

Federal voting intention

Q If a Federal 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? If don't know -Well which party are you currently leaning to?

	Total	Last week 15/3/16	2 weeks ago 8/3/16	4 weeks ago 23/2/16	Election 7 Sep 13
Liberal	40%	39%	39%	41%	
National	3%	3%	3%	3%	
Total Liberal/National	43%	42%	43%	44%	45.6%
Labor	38%	36%	37%	35%	33.4%
Greens	10%	11%	10%	10%	8.6%
Palmer United Party	1%	1%	2%	1%	5.5%
Other/Independent	9%	9%	8%	10%	6.9%
2 party preferred					
Liberal National	50%	50%	50%	52%	53.5%
Labor	50%	50%	50%	48%	46.5%

NB. Sample = 1,756. The data in the above tables comprise 2-week averages derived from the first preference/leaning to voting questions. Respondents who select 'don't know' are not included in the results. The two-party preferred estimate is calculated by distributing the votes of the other parties according to their preferences at the 2013 election.

Sexual harassment

Q Do you believe you have personally ever been sexually harassed at work?

	Total	Men	Women	Aged 18-34	Aged 35-54	Aged 55+
Been harassed by a boss or superior	10%	8%	13%	10%	13%	7%
Been harassed by a coworker who was not a superior	11%	8%	14%	11%	14%	7%
Been harassed by a customer or client	7%	4%	10%	7%	10%	5%
Total been harassed	21%	14%	28%	22%	24%	15%
Never been sexually harassed at work	74%	82%	67%	73%	70%	83%
Prefer not to say	5%	4%	5%	5%	6%	2%

21% of respondents say they have been sexually harassed at work. 14% of men and 28% of women say they have been harassed.

Those aged 35-54 were more likely to say they had been sexually harassed.

30% of part-time workers and 22% of full-time workers say they have been sexually harassed.

Types of sexual harassment

Q Which of the following do you think constitute sexual harassment in the workplace?

	Yes, always	Yes, some times	No	Not sure	Men Yes, always	Men Yes, some times	Men No	Men Not sure	Women Yes, always	Women Yes, sometimes	Women No	Women Not sure
Telling sexual jokes	22%	49%	23%	5%	23%	46%	25%	5%	22%	51%	22%	6%
Telling sexual stories	28%	47%	20%	5%	27%	46%	22%	5%	29%	48%	18%	5%
Flirting with a co-worker	19%	50%	23%	8%	22%	47%	23%	7%	16%	52%	23%	9%
Sending sexual emails	61%	27%	9%	3%	60%	27%	9%	4%	62%	26%	10%	2%
If your superior asks you on a date	26%	39%	25%	10%	26%	40%	26%	9%	26%	39%	24%	11%
Touching someone in a familiar way	46%	37%	12%	5%	44%	38%	14%	4%	49%	35%	11%	5%

61% think that sending sexual emails always constitutes sexual harassment. 46% say touching someone in a familiar way always constitutes sexual harassment. A majority believed that all listed actions always or sometimes constitutes sexual harassment.

There was little difference between the opinions of men and women on what constitutes sexual harassment.



ABCC

- Q The Government plans to re-establish the Australian Building and Construction Commission to address claims of union militancy in the construction industry. The ABCC’s powers included preventing any person from revealing they had been forced to give testimony to the Commission, and overriding a person’s right to silence. Do you support or oppose re-establishing the ABCC?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other	Oct 2013
Total support	35%	27%	52%	23%	28%	29%
Total oppose	17%	26%	8%	20%	23%	22%
Strongly support	17%	13%	27%	6%	14%	12%
Support	18%	14%	25%	17%	14%	17%
Neither support nor oppose	27%	25%	23%	37%	33%	23%
Oppose	8%	10%	6%	12%	10%	9%
Strongly oppose	9%	16%	2%	8%	13%	13%
Don't know	22%	21%	16%	19%	16%	25%

35% support re-establishing the ABCC and 17% oppose. 27% neither support nor oppose and 22% don't have an opinion. This represents an increase in support for the ABCC since a similar question was asked in October 2013.

39% of full-time workers support and 15% oppose. 34% of part-time workers support and 11% oppose.



Double dissolution

Q If the Senate rejects the bill to restore the ABCC, or the Senate fails to pass it, would you approve or disapprove the Government calling a double-dissolution election?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other
Total approve	34%	34%	43%	33%	33%
Total disapprove	22%	28%	18%	29%	24%
Strongly approve	13%	15%	16%	5%	17%
Approve	21%	19%	27%	28%	16%
Disapprove	15%	16%	15%	22%	14%
Strongly disapprove	7%	12%	3%	7%	10%
Don't know	44%	39%	40%	39%	44%

34% would approve of the Government calling a double dissolution election if the Senate fails to restore the ABCC and 22% oppose. 44% don't have an opinion.

Supporters of all parties are more likely to approve than disapprove.



Plebiscites

- Q The Government intends to hold a plebiscite (a national vote) on the issue of same sex marriage. Do you think the following issues should be decided by a plebiscite or a vote in Parliament?

	Decided by Parliament	Decided by plebiscite	Don't know
Euthanasia	22%	61%	17%
Retirement age	40%	43%	17%
The size of defence force	71%	14%	16%
Privatisations of major Government owned assets	46%	37%	17%
Abortion	23%	58%	19%
Major tax changes	53%	30%	16%

A majority think that the issues of euthanasia (61%) and abortion (58%) should be decided by a plebiscite.

A majority believe that the size of the defence force (71%) and major tax changes (53%) should be decided by Parliament.

Tony Abbott

Q Do you think Tony Abbott should –

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote Other	Dec 2015
Stay in Parliament on the back bench	15%	16%	20%	7%	12%	14%
Stay in Parliament and be given a Ministry	18%	8%	32%	5%	20%	18%
Resign from Parliament now	29%	41%	16%	55%	31%	30%
Resign from Parliament at the next election	18%	21%	16%	23%	19%	19%
Don't know	19%	14%	16%	10%	18%	19%

33% think Tony Abbott should stay in Parliament and 47% think he should resign – now or at the next election.

Overall, views have not changed significantly since this question was asked in December.

Among Liberal/National voters, 52% (up 4%) think he should stay in Parliament and 32% (down 5%) think he should resign.

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.

