

The Essential Report

14 November 2017



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Prepared By: Essential Research

Data Supplied by:



AMSRS 

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

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 10th to 13th November 2017 and is based on 1,028 respondents.

Aside from the standard question on voting intention, this week's report includes questions on party leaders, dual citizenship, the NBN, the same-sex marriage survey and workers incomes.

The methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix on page 14.

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 7/11/17	2 weeks ago 31/10/17	4 weeks ago 17/10/17	Election 2 Jul 16
Liberal	33%	34%	33%	34%	
National	3%	3%	3%	3%	
Total Liberal/National	36%	37%	36%	37%	42.0%
Labor	38%	37%	37%	36%	34.7%
Greens	9%	10%	10%	9%	10.2%
Nick Xenophon Team	3%	2%	3%	3%	
Pauline Hanson's One Nation	8%	8%	7%	8%	
Other/Independent	7%	6%	6%	7%	13.1%
2 party preferred					
Liberal National	46%	47%	46%	48%	50.4%
Labor	54%	53%	54%	52%	49.6%

NB. Sample = 1,815. 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 2016 election.

Malcolm Turnbull

Q Do you approve or disapprove of the job Malcolm Turnbull is doing as Prime Minister?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote Other	Oct 2017	Sep 2017	June 2017	Mar 2017	Dec 2016	June 2016	Dec 2015
Total Approve	37%	27%	70%	24%	19%	42%	41%	36%	33%	34%	38%	56%
Total Disapprove	49%	62%	20%	72%	64%	43%	46%	45%	50%	46%	40%	23%
Strongly approve	6%	6%	12%	1%	-	10%	7%	5%	5%	5%	6%	13%
Approve	31%	21%	58%	23%	19%	32%	34%	31%	28%	29%	32%	43%
Disapprove	30%	33%	17%	51%	39%	28%	28%	28%	30%	30%	24%	16%
Strongly disapprove	19%	29%	3%	21%	25%	15%	18%	17%	20%	16%	16%	7%
Don't know	14%	10%	10%	5%	16%	15%	14%	19%	18%	20%	21%	21%

37% approved of the job Malcolm Turnbull is doing as Prime Minister (down 5% from last month), and 49% disapproved (up 6%) – a change in net approval rating from -1 to -12.

70% (down 4%) of Liberal/National voters approved of the job Malcolm Turnbull is doing, compared to 27% of ALP voters and 24% of Greens voters.

By gender, men were 43% approve/46% disapprove and women 32% approve/50% disapprove.

Bill Shorten

Q Do you approve or disapprove of the job Bill Shorten is doing as Opposition Leader?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other	Oct 2017	Sep 2017	June 2017	Mar 2017	Dec 2016	Dec 2015	Dec 2014
Total Approve	35%	67%	19%	30%	20%	37%	36%	34%	30%	35%	27%	35%
Total Disapprove	48%	18%	69%	63%	65%	44%	47%	43%	49%	38%	47%	39%
Strongly approve	7%	18%	2%	2%	1%	8%	7%	5%	4%	6%	4%	7%
Approve	28%	49%	17%	28%	19%	29%	29%	29%	26%	29%	23%	28%
Disapprove	27%	15%	36%	43%	34%	27%	25%	28%	26%	21%	26%	23%
Strongly disapprove	21%	3%	33%	20%	31%	17%	22%	15%	23%	17%	21%	16%
Don't know	17%	15%	12%	8%	15%	19%	17%	23%	22%	25%	25%	26%

35% approved of the job Bill Shorten is doing as Opposition Leader (down 2% from last month), and 48% disapproved (up 4%) - a change in net approval rating from -7 to -13.

64% (down 1%) of ALP voters approved of the job Bill Shorten is doing, compared to 38% of Greens voters and 25% of Liberal/National voters.

By gender, men were 40% approve/50% disapprove and women 30% approve/46% disapprove.

Preferred Prime Minister

Q Who do you think would make the better Prime Minister out of Malcolm Turnbull and Bill Shorten?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other	Oct 2017	Sep 2017	June 2017	Mar 2017	Dec 2016	Jun 2016	Dec 2015
Malcolm Turnbull	40%	19%	78%	31%	30%	42%	43%	39%	38%	39%	40%	54%
Bill Shorten	28%	58%	5%	43%	15%	28%	29%	26%	26%	28%	29%	15%
Don't know	33%	23%	17%	26%	55%	31%	28%	34%	36%	33%	32%	31%

40% thought that Malcolm Turnbull would make a better Prime Minister (down 2% from last month), and 28% thought Bill Shorten would be better (no change). 33% did not know who would make a better Prime Minister.

The results were split by party, with 78% of Liberal/National voters saying that Malcolm Turnbull would be a better Prime Minister, and 58% of Labor voters saying Bill Shorten would.

Greens voters preferred Bill Shorten (43%) to Turnbull (31%).

48% of men prefer Malcolm Turnbull and 28% prefer Bill Shorten.

32% of women prefer Malcolm Turnbull and 28% prefer Bill Shorten.



Dual citizenship proposal

Q To resolve the issue of dual citizenship of parliamentarians, Malcolm Turnbull has proposed that MPs provide a declaration that he or she was not, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, a citizen of any country other than Australia. Do you think this plan goes far enough or does not go far enough?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other
Goes far enough	40%	34%	57%	43%	37%
Does not go far enough	44%	52%	30%	50%	51%
Don't know	16%	13%	13%	7%	11%

40% think that Malcolm Turnbull’s proposal that MP’s provide a declaration regarding dual citizenship goes far enough and 44% think it does not go far enough.

57% of Liberal National voters think it goes far enough and 52% of Labor voters and 50% of Greens voters think it does not go far enough.



Public funding

- Q Do you think MP's who were invalidly elected because of dual citizenship should or should not have to repay the public funding of their election campaign?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other
Should have to repay public funding	49%	63%	34%	55%	57%
Should not have to repay public funding	30%	22%	46%	33%	27%
Don't know	21%	14%	21%	13%	16%

49% think that MP's who were invalidly elected because of dual citizenship should have to repay the public funding of their election campaign and 30% think they should not have to repay public funding.

A majority of Labor (63%) and Greens (55%) voters think they should repay their public funding.

Privatising the NBN

Q Would you approve or disapprove of privatising the NBN when it is completed in 2020?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other
Total approve	31%	34%	40%	26%	20%
Total disapprove	44%	45%	39%	49%	54%
Strongly approve	8%	12%	9%	4%	5%
Approve	23%	22%	31%	22%	15%
Disapprove	25%	24%	25%	21%	28%
Strongly disapprove	19%	21%	14%	28%	26%
Don't know	26%	20%	21%	25%	25%

31% approve of privatising the NBN when it is completed in 2020 and 44% disapprove. Most voter groups were more likely to disapprove of privatization except for Liberal National voters who were split 40% approve and 39% disapprove.

Same-sex marriage survey

Q Thinking about the same-sex marriage postal survey which best reflects your view?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote other
It was a good process that should be used for informing Governments on other contentious issues in future	27%	29%	32%	16%	26%
It was a good process but should not be used in the future	19%	18%	25%	16%	14%
It was a bad process that should not be used in the future	45%	48%	37%	59%	56%
Don't know	9%	5%	7%	8%	5%

45% think that the same-sex marriage postal survey was a bad process that should not be used in the future, 19% think it was a good process but should not be used in the future and 27% think it was a good process that should be used in future for other issues.

Those most likely to think it was a bad process were Greens voters (59%), other voters (56%).

58% of 18-34 year-olds thought it was a good process compared to 37% of those aged 35-64 and 48% of those aged 65+.



Perceptions of incomes

Q Thinking about types of workers, as far as you know, do you think the following types of worker are paid too much, not enough about right?

	Paid too much	Paid about right	Not paid enough	Don't know
Politicians	74%	18%	3%	5%
CEOs/senior executives	72%	18%	3%	7%
Lawyers	65%	25%	3%	7%
Accountants	32%	51%	6%	10%
Managers	22%	61%	7%	11%
Journalists	20%	55%	7%	17%
Doctors	20%	58%	14%	8%
Engineers	15%	65%	9%	11%
IT workers	14%	64%	11%	11%
Bank workers	9%	67%	13%	11%
Retail workers	2%	40%	49%	8%
Hospitality workers	3%	38%	51%	8%
Teachers	6%	31%	58%	5%
Child care workers	4%	23%	66%	6%
Nurses	3%	22%	69%	6%



Well over half believe that politicians (74%), CEO's/senior executives (72%) and lawyers (65%) are paid too much.

A majority believe that nurses (69%), child care workers (66%), teachers (58%) and hospitality workers (51%) are not paid enough.

There were few significant differences across demographics.

Those on higher incomes (\$2,000+ pw) were somewhat less likely to think lawyers (56%), accountants (22%), managers (14%) and CEO's/senior executives (62%) were paid too much.

Women were more likely to think child care workers (74%) and nurses (76%) were not paid enough



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 panelist 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 2016 election, the Essential Report estimates of first preference votes averaged less than 1% difference from the election results and the two-party preferred difference was only 0.1%.

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.