

# The Essential Report

25 September 2018



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**Prepared By:** Essential Research

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**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 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 and is based on 1,030 respondents.

Aside from the standard question on voting intention, this week's report includes questions on trust in institutions, quotas for Liberal women, corruption, gender equality, party representing interests of groups and religious freedoms.

The methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix on page 13.

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	2 weeks ago 11/9/18	4 weeks ago 28/8/18	Election 2 Jul 16
Liberal	34%	32%	32%	
National	3%	3%	3%	
<b>Total Liberal/National</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>42.0%</b>
<b>Labor</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>34.7%</b>
Greens	12%	10%	10%	10.2%
Nick Xenophon Team	1%	2%	2%	
Pauline Hanson's One Nation	5%	8%	7%	
Other/Independent	9%	7%	7%	13.1%
<b>2 party preferred</b>				
Liberal National	<b>47%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>50.4%</b>
Labor	<b>53%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>49.6%</b>

NB. 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.

## Trust in Institutions

Q How much trust do you have in the following institutions and organisations?

	Total trust	A lot of trust	Some trust	A little trust	No trust	Don't know	% change	Total trust Oct 15	Total trust Sep 16	Total trust Oct 17
Federal police	<b>70%</b>	31%	39%	18%	7%	5%	<b>-1</b>	67%	63%	71%
State police	<b>67%</b>	30%	37%	22%	8%	3%	<b>-</b>	68%	63%	67%
The High Court	<b>61%</b>	24%	37%	22%	11%	6%	<b>-</b>	60%	57%	61%
The ABC	<b>54%</b>	16%	38%	26%	12%	8%	<b>+2</b>	55%	53%	52%
The Reserve Bank	<b>50%</b>	15%	35%	28%	125%	8%	<b>+1</b>	51%	47%	49%
Charitable organisations	<b>47%</b>	12%	35%	36%	12%	4%	<b>+1</b>	49%	43%	46%
Environment groups	<b>42%</b>	10%	32%	33%	18%	6%	<b>-</b>	42%	39%	42%
Your local council	<b>42%</b>	9%	33%	37%	18%	4%	<b>+4</b>	40%	36%	38%
The Commonwealth Public Service	<b>39%</b>	7%	32%	36%	16%	9%	<b>+1</b>	38%	36%	38%
State Parliament	<b>31%</b>	7%	24%	33%	31%	6%	<b>-</b>	32%	26%	31%
Business groups	<b>29%</b>	3%	26%	43%	19%	9%	<b>+1</b>	30%	27%	28%
Federal Parliament	<b>28%</b>	6%	22%	32%	35%	6%	<b>-2</b>	32%	26%	30%
Religious organisations	<b>28%</b>	6%	22%	26%	39%	7%	<b>+2</b>	30%	26%	26%



Trade unions	<b>25%</b>	5%	20%	35%	31%	9%	-	27%	25%	25%
Political parties	<b>15%</b>	2%	13%	35%	44%	6%	<b>-3</b>	16%	14%	18%

**Note:** ‘Total Trust’ is an aggregate figure achieved by adding ‘A lot of trust’ and ‘Some trust’

Overall, trust in institutions has changed little since this question was asked in October, 2017.

Respondents had most trust in the Federal police (70%), State police (67%), the High Court (61%), the ABC (54%) and the Reserve Bank (50%). They had least trust in political parties (15%), trade unions (25%), religious organisations (28%), Federal Parliament (28%) and business groups (29%).

The main change since the last poll were for local council (up 4%) and political parties (down 3%).



## Quotas for women

Q Would you support or oppose the Liberal Party adopting quotas to increase number of Liberal women in the parliament?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote Other
<b>Total support</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Total oppose</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>35%</b>
Strongly support	19%	17%	21%	32%	18%
Support	42%	46%	47%	36%	32%
Oppose	14%	12%	16%	13%	23%
Strongly oppose	7%	6%	11%	1%	12%
Don't know	18%	19%	5%	18%	15%

61% support the Liberal Party adopting quotas to increase number of Liberal women in the parliament and 21% oppose.

68% of Liberal National voters support quotas for women and 27% oppose.

56% of men support quotas for women compared to 65% of women.



## Corruption

Q For each of the following Australian industries and organisations, please indicate how affected by corruption you think they are:

	Widespread corruption	Some corruption	Very little corruption	Don't know	Apr 2016 Widespread corruption
Building industry	23%	47%	16%	14%	36%
Unions	29%	41%	17%	13%	35%
Banking and finance sector	36%	41%	14%	10%	25%
Politics	45%	37%	9%	8%	40%
Large corporations	26%	51%	12%	11%	34%
Law enforcement (police)	9%	42%	39%	11%	-
The media	21%	47%	21%	11%	-

45% think there is widespread corruption in politics and 36% think there is widespread corruption in the banking and finance sector.

50% of Liberal/National voters think there is widespread corruption in unions compared to only 15% of Labor voters.

49% of Labor voters think there is widespread corruption in politics compared to 31% of LNP voters.

Main changes since this question was asked in April 2016 were for banking and finance (up 11%), the building industry (down 13%) and large corporations (down 8%).



## Federal ICAC

Q Would you support or oppose the establishment of an independent federal corruption body to monitor the behaviour of our politicians and public servants?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote Other
<b>Total support</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Total oppose</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Strongly support	46%	50%	41%	53%	54%
Support	36%	32%	46%	32%	34%
Oppose	4%	4%	5%	5%	2%
Strongly oppose	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Don't know	14%	14%	7%	7%	9%

82% support the establishment of an independent federal corruption body and only 5% oppose.

More than 80% of all party voter groups support.



## Gender equality

Q Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Total agree	Total dis-agree	Strong -ly agree	Agree	Dis-agree	Strong -ly dis-agree	Don't know	Men agree	Women agree	Mar 2016 agree
Gender equality, meaning that men and women are equal, has come far enough already	47%	44%	16%	31%	32%	12%	9%	54%	39%	38%
Gender equality has already been mostly achieved	47%	46%	13%	34%	35%	11%	7%	56%	38%	41%
Work to achieve gender equality today benefits mostly well-to-do people	45%	36%	14%	31%	27%	9%	19%	49%	41%	39%
There should be laws that require equal salaries for men and women in the same position	78%	14%	39%	39%	10%	4%	8%	72%	84%	78%
Although there has been significant progress on gender equality there is still a long way to go	66%	25%	23%	43%	18%	7%	10%	60%	71%	71%

There was very strong agreement with the statements “there should be laws that require equal salaries for men and women in the same position” (78%) and “Although there has been significant progress on gender equality there is still a long way to go” (66%).

More than half of the men agree that gender equality has mostly been achieved and that gender equality . . . has come far enough but more than half of women disagree.



## Representing interests of groups

Q Which of the major parties would be best at representing the interests of the following groups?

	Liberal	Labor	No difference	Don't know
Women	15%	25%	43%	18%
Young people	14%	26%	43%	17%
People from non English speaking background	12%	26%	43%	20%
Older people	21%	24%	37%	18%
Men	22%	17%	43%	17%
Indigenous people	10%	24%	46%	20%
LGBTi	10%	23%	39%	28%
Young families	14%	28%	38%	19%
All Australians	19%	23%	41%	17%

Around 2 in 5 think there is no difference between the major parties in terms of whose interests they represent.

The Labor Party is thought to best represent the interests of all groups listed except for men (22% Liberal/17% Labor).

The largest gaps between the parties are for representing the interests of people from non-English speaking backgrounds (Labor 26%/Liberal 12%), indigenous people (Labor 24%/Liberal 10%) and young families (Labor 28%/Liberal 14%).

## Religious freedoms

Q Would you support or oppose a new law enshrining religious freedoms?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens	Vote Other
<b>Total support</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>Total oppose</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>43%</b>
Strongly support	13%	9%	18%	10%	18%
Support	24%	25%	30%	27%	16%
Oppose	15%	16%	13%	12%	22%
Strongly oppose	11%	10%	9%	14%	21%
Don't know	37%	39%	30%	37%	23%

37% support a new law enshrining religious freedoms and 26% oppose. 37% don't know.

Strongest support came from LNP voters (48%).

Other party voters were more likely to be opposed (43%).



## Appendix: Methodology, margin of error and professional standards

The data gathered for this report is gathered from a fortnightly online omnibus conducted by Your Source. Essential Research has been utilizing the Your Source online panel to conduct opinion polling since November 2007.

Every two weeks, the team at Essential considers 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 current media and social issues.

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 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. 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.

