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With data supplied by



About the 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 25th and 28th October and is based on 955 respondents.

Aside from the standard question on voting intention, this week's report includes questions on Australia's UN Security Council seat, relationships with other countries, uranium exports to India, nuclear power, the economy and the budget surplus.

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

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

Federal politics – 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?

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

Sample size = 1,792 respondents

First preference/leaning to	Election 21 Aug 10	4 weeks ago 1/10/12	2 weeks ago 15/10/12	Last week 22/10/12	This week 29/10/12
Liberal		44%	44%	44%	44%
National		3%	3%	3%	4%
Total Lib/Nat	43.6%	47%	47%	47%	48%
Labor	38.0%	36%	36%	36%	36%
Greens	11.8%	9%	9%	9%	9%
Other/Independent	6.6%	7%	8%	7%	7%

2PP	Election 21 Aug 10	4 weeks ago	2 weeks ago	Last week	This week
Total Lib/Nat	49.9%	53%	53%	53%	54%
Labor	50.1%	47%	47%	47%	46%

NB. 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 2010 election. These estimates have a confidence interval of approx. plus or minus 2-3%.

Benefit of UN Security Council Seat

Q. Last week Australia won a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council. Permanent seats on the UN Security Council are held by major powers such as the US, Russia and China while non-permanent seats are held by other countries for a two year period. How much of a benefit, if any, do you think there is for Australia in having a seat on the UN Security Council?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total a lot/some benefit	45%	67%	33%	61%
Total little/no benefit	36%	16%	55%	22%
A lot of benefit	14%	27%	7%	17%
Some benefit	31%	40%	26%	44%
Little benefit	20%	13%	29%	16%
No benefit	16%	3%	26%	6%
Don't know	18%	17%	13%	17%

45% think there is a lot or some benefit in Australia having a seat on the UN Security Council and 36% think there is little or no benefit.

67% of Labor voters and 61% of Greens voters think there is a lot/some benefit but 55% of Liberal/National voters think there is little/no benefit. Younger respondents were a little more likely to see a benefit for Australia - 50% of respondents aged 18-35 think there is a lot/some benefit compared to 40% of those aged 55+.

Exporting Uranium to India

Q. Do you support or oppose the proposal for Australia to export uranium to India?

	21 Nov 11	Total 29 Oct 12	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total support	30%	28%	28%	36%	12%
Total oppose	45%	40%	41%	36%	67%
Strongly support	7%	6%	5%	8%	2%
Support	23%	22%	23%	28%	10%
Oppose	24%	22%	27%	19%	32%
Strongly oppose	21%	18%	14%	17%	35%
Don't know	25%	32%	30%	29%	22%

28% support the proposal for Australia to export uranium to India and 40% oppose - 32% had no opinion. Both support and opposition have dropped a little since this question was asked last year - those who "don't know" have increased from 25% to 32%.

Labor and Greens voters were more likely to oppose while Liberal/National voters were split 36% support/36% oppose.

All age groups were more likely to oppose the proposal although support was strongest with older people - 36% of those aged 55+ support compared to only 23% of those aged 18-34.

Men split 39% support to 36% oppose, compared to women 17% support/43% oppose.

Nuclear Power Plants

Q. Do you support or oppose Australia developing nuclear power plants for the generation of electricity?

	27 Jan 09	20 Dec 10	21 Mar 11	21 Nov 11	Total 29 Oct 12	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total support	43%	43%	35%	39%	39%	36%	47%	19%
Total oppose	35%	37%	53%	45%	41%	44%	34%	69%
Strongly support	14%	16%	12%	13%	11%	9%	15%	3%
Support	29%	27%	23%	26%	28%	27%	32%	16%
Oppose	21%	21%	21%	22%	20%	22%	18%	28%
Strongly oppose	14%	16%	32%	23%	21%	22%	16%	41%
Don't know	22%	19%	13%	16%	21%	20%	18%	11%

41% oppose Australia developing nuclear power plants for the generation of electricity and 39% support. This represents a small drop (-4%) in opposition since this question was asked last year.

Those that intend to vote Lib/Nat were more likely to support (47%) than oppose (34%) Australia developing nuclear power plants for the generation of electricity.

There was majority opposition from Greens voters (69% oppose or strongly oppose) while Labor voters were split 36% support/44% oppose.

There is a considerable difference between the attitudes of men and women towards nuclear power plants – 52% of men, compared to just 25% of women support or strongly support Australia developing nuclear power plants for the generation of electricity.

Importance of Relationships with Other Countries

Q. How important is it for Australia to have a close relationship with the following nations?

	Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Don't know	Very Important 28 Mar 11	Very Important 14 Nov 11	Change
United States	55%	36%	5%	3%	60%	55%	-
New Zealand	54%	36%	7%	3%	69%	61%	-7
United Kingdom	47%	44%	6%	3%	56%	47%	-
China	45%	44%	6%	4%	48%	48%	-3
Indonesia	33%	43%	18%	5%	31%	27%	+6
Japan	31%	52%	12%	5%	39%	32%	-1
India	26%	45%	22%	6%	26%	23%	+3
Germany	20%	44%	29%	7%	23%	18%	+2
South Africa	14%	35%	43%	8%	16%	12%	+2

More than half the respondents think it is very important to have close relationships with the New Zealand (54%) and the United States (55%) and just under half think it is very important to have a close relationship with the China (45%) and the United Kingdom (47%).

A close relationship with the United States is considered very important by 60% of Liberal/National voters, 60% of Labor voters and 43% of Greens voters.

Since this question was asked last November, there have been decreases in the rating of the importance of relations with New Zealand (-7%) and an increase in the rating of the importance of relations with Indonesia (+6%).

Change in Relationships with Other Countries

Q. Would you like to see Australia's relationship with these countries get closer, stay the same or become less close?

	Get closer	Stay the same	Become less close	Don't know		Get closer 28 Mar 11	Get closer 14 Nov 11	Change
China	29%	50%	9%	12%		32%	35%	-6
New Zealand	26%	59%	4%	11%		37%	33%	-7
Indonesia	25%	47%	16%	12%		21%	23%	+2
India	24%	47%	15%	14%		19%	23%	+1
Japan	22%	59%	7%	13%		26%	24%	-2
United Kingdom	21%	62%	6%	10%		25%	19%	+2
United States	21%	59%	10%	10%		24%	18%	+3
Germany	18%	59%	7%	16%		18%	20%	-2
South Africa	12%	57%	14%	16%		13%	14%	-2

29% favour closer relations with China, 26% with New Zealand, 25% with Indonesia and 24% with India.

Liberal/National voters are more likely to favour closer relationships with United States (25%).

Greens voters are more likely to favour closer relationships with Indonesia (34%), Japan (34%) and India (44%),

Since this question was asked last year, the percentages wanting a closer relationship with the China (-7%) and the New Zealand (-6%) have declined.

Rating of the Economy

Q. How would you rate the current state of Australia's economy?

	28 May 12	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total good	35%	41%	64%	27%	57%
Total poor	29%	23%	7%	38%	7%
Very good	6%	6%	9%	3%	8%
Good	29%	35%	55%	24%	49%
Neither good nor poor	33%	33%	26%	33%	34%
Poor	20%	16%	6%	26%	7%
Very poor	9%	7%	1%	12%	-
Don't know	2%	4%	3%	2%	1%

41% described the economy as good or very good and 23% poor/very poor - 33% said it was neither. This is a substantial positive change from a net +6 in May to net +18.

Those most likely to think the economy was good/very good were aged 18-34 (46%).

Those most likely to think the economy was poor/very poor were aged 65+ (33%) and respondents from Queensland (44%).

Approval of Return to Surplus

Q. Do you approve or disapprove of the Government's intention to return the budget to surplus this financial year, even if it means making more spending cuts?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total approve	37%	52%	31%	43%
Total disapprove	43%	32%	54%	35%
Strongly approve	5%	8%	5%	7%
Approve	32%	44%	26%	36%
Disapprove	31%	26%	38%	26%
Strongly disapprove	12%	6%	16%	9%
Don't know	19%	17%	16%	23%

37% approve of returning the budget to surplus even if it means spending cuts and 43% disapprove.

Labor voters (52%) and Greens voters (43%) are more likely to approve but 54% Liberal/National voters disapprove. There were no substantial differences across demographics.

Appendix – Methodology

The data gathered for this report is gathered from a weekly online omnibus conducted by Your Source. 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. Senior Your Source staff hold Australian Market and Social Research Society (AMSRS) membership and are bound by professional codes of behavior.

Essential Research has been utilizing the Your Source online panel to conduct research on a week by week basis since November 2007. Each Monday, the team at Essential Media Communications discusses issues that are topical. From there a series of questions are devised to put to the Australian public. Some questions are repeated each week (such as political preference and social perspective), while others are unique to each week and reflect prominent 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+ responses. 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.

EMC 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.

