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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 2nd and 6th November and is based on 1,026 respondents.

Aside from the standard question on voting intention, this week's report includes questions on The Greens, the Asian Century, nuclear power and uranium mining.

The methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix on page 12.

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 = 1,863 respondents

First preference/leaning to	Election 21 Aug 10	4 weeks ago 8/10/12	2 weeks ago 22/10/12	Last week 29/10/12	This week 7/11/12
Liberal		44%	44%	44%	43%
National		3%	3%	4%	3%
Total Lib/Nat	43.6%	47%	47%	48%	46%
Labor	38.0%	37%	36%	36%	37%
Greens	11.8%	9%	9%	9%	9%
Other/Independent	6.6%	7%	7%	7%	8%

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

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%.



Approval of Christine Milne

Q. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Christine Milne is doing as leader of the Greens?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total approve	20%	28%	10%	71%
Total disapprove	33%	24%	49%	5%
Strongly approve	2%	3%	1%	8%
Approve	18%	25%	9%	63%
Disapprove	18%	18%	22%	5%
Strongly disapprove	15%	6%	27%	-
Don't know	47%	48%	42%	24%

20% approve of the job Christine Milne is doing as leader of the Greens and 33% disapprove - nearly half could not give an opinion.

Among Greens voters 71% approve and 5% disapprove. 27% of respondents aged under 35 approve compared to 17% of those aged 55+.



Performance of the Greens

Q. Do you think the performance of the Greens in Federal Parliament has been good or poor?

	16 Jul 12	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total good	17%	16%	22%	6%	65%
Total poor	47%	40%	27%	61%	5%
Very good	3%	3%	3%	*	20%
Good	14%	13%	19%	6%	45%
Neither good nor poor	27%	25%	32%	20%	23%
Poor	19%	18%	17%	24%	5%
Very poor	28%	22%	10%	37%	-
Don't know	10%	19%	20%	12%	6%

16% think the performance of The Greens in Federal Parliament has been good or very good and 40% think it has been poor or very poor. This is a drop of 7% in the percentage thinking the Greens have been poor since July when this question was last asked. Those who don't know have increased from 10% to 19%.

Labor voters tend to think The Greens' performance has been poor/very poor (27%) or neither good nor poor (32%) - and only 22% think it has been good/very good. 61% of Liberal/National voters think it has been poor/very poor and 65% of Greens voters think it has been good/very good.

Among respondents aged under 35, 24% think The Greens' performance has been good/very good and 24% think it has been poor/very poor.



Greens Policies

Q. Do you think that The Greens' policies are too extreme or do they represent the views of many voters?

	16 Jul 12	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Too extreme	53%	47%	38%	69%	7%
Represent the views of many voters	26%	25%	33%	12%	81%
Don't know	21%	28%	29%	20%	12%

47% think The Greens' policies are too extreme and 25% think they represent the views of many voters. Since this question was last asked in July, the percentage thinking they are extreme has dropped 6% while "don't know" has increased from 21% to 28%.

Those most likely to think The Greens' policies are too extreme were men (55%), aged 55+ (66%) and Liberal/National voters (69%).

30% of respondents aged under 35 think they represent the views of many voters and 33% think they are too extreme.



The Asian Century

Q. The Government recently released a report about the Asian Century and the opportunities for Australia as part of the region. Do you agree or disagree that Australia's economic future depends on our engagement and relationships with Asian countries?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total agree	65%	73%	66%	74%
Total disagree	16%	12%	20%	16%
Strongly agree	16%	25%	11%	24%
Agree	49%	48%	55%	50%
Disagree	10%	9%	12%	11%
Strongly disagree	6%	3%	8%	5%
Don't know	18%	15%	14%	10%

65% agree that Australia's economic future depends on our engagement and relationships with Asian countries and 16% disagree. At least two thirds of each voter group agreed.

There was similar agreement across all age groups. Highest disagreement was shown by those aged 55+ (22%) and Liberal/National voters (20%).



Increasing Connections with Asian Countries

Q. Do you agree or disagree that increasing our diplomatic and business connections with Asian countries should be a major priority for Australia?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total agree	62%	72%	60%	67%
Total disagree	22%	15%	29%	19%
Strongly agree	13%	20%	8%	22%
Agree	49%	52%	52%	45%
Disagree	16%	12%	21%	12%
Strongly disagree	6%	3%	8%	7%
Don't know	16%	14%	11%	14%

62% agree that Australia's increasing our diplomatic and business connections with Asian countries should be a major priority for Australia and 22% disagree.

There was similar agreement across all age groups. Highest disagreement was shown by those aged 55+ (27%) and Liberal/National voters (29%).



Learning Asian Languages

Q. Do you approve or disapprove of making it a priority for Australian students to learn Asian languages?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total approve	50%	57%	46%	64%
Total disapprove	38%	29%	46%	26%
Strongly approve	9%	14%	5%	18%
Approve	41%	43%	41%	46%
Disapprove	22%	18%	25%	10%
Strongly disapprove	16%	11%	21%	16%
Don't know	13%	15%	8%	10%

50% approve of making it a priority for Australian students to learn Asian languages and 38% disapprove. A majority of Labor voters and Greens voters approve but Liberal/National voters are split with 46% approve and 46% disapprove.

There were no major differences across age groups. 57% of full-time workers approve and 33% disapprove.



Uranium Exploration and Mining

Q. Do you approve or disapprove of expanding uranium exploration and mining in Australia?

	Total	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total approve	41%	36%	54%	27%
Total disapprove	41%	47%	28%	64%
Strongly approve	8%	7%	11%	9%
Approve	33%	29%	43%	18%
Disapprove	23%	30%	15%	26%
Strongly disapprove	18%	17%	13%	38%
Don't know	19%	17%	18%	9%

Respondents were evenly divided over expanding uranium exploration and mining in Australia - 41% approve and 41% disapprove.

Labor voters and Greens voters were more likely to disapprove while more than half (54%) Liberal/National voters approve.

Men split 56% approve/30% disapprove compared to women 24% approve/50% disapprove.



Nuclear Power

Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Total agree	Total disagree	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Nuclear power is a good way to reduce greenhouse emissions	40%	35%	10%	30%	19%	16%	25%
We should develop renewable energy options before nuclear	77%	11%	41%	36%	8%	3%	12%
Nuclear power is too risky because of the risk of serious accidents	62%	27%	28%	34%	20%	7%	12%
Nuclear power isn't worth it because of the need to manage radioactive waste	63%	22%	32%	31%	17%	5%	15%
Establishing a nuclear industry would be too expensive	42%	29%	17%	25%	23%	6%	29%
We have our own uranium supplies so it's logical we should develop nuclear power.	37%	40%	9%	28%	22%	18%	23%

There was strong majority agreement with the statements “We should develop renewable energy options before nuclear” (77%), “Nuclear power isn't worth it because of the need to manage radioactive waste “ (63%) and “Nuclear power is too risky because of the risk of serious accidents “ (62%).

However, respondents were approximately evenly split over “Nuclear power is a good way to reduce greenhouse emissions” (40% agree/35% disagree) and “We have our own uranium supplies so it's logical we should develop nuclear power” (37%/40%).



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.

