

COALITION AHEAD 53% TO 47%

Key findings

- *Two-party vote: Coalition 53% (up 1) lead ALP 47% (down 1) [based on 2010 election preferences]*
- *First preferences: Labor 34% (steady), Coalition 45% (up 2), Greens 12% (up 1)*
- *Ms Gillard's approval at 47% (steady); disapproval at 48% (steady); net approval at -1 (steady)*
- *Mr Abbott's approval at 36% (down 1); disapproval at 60% (steady); net approval at -24 (down 1)*
- *Preferred PM: Gillard 51% (up 1), Abbott 42% (up 2)*

The Coalition would win an election held now, according to the latest Nielsen Poll.

The national poll of 1,400 respondents, taken from Thursday to Saturday (15-17 November 2012), shows the Coalition with 53% of the two-party preferred vote (up one point since 18-20 October) ahead of the ALP on 47% (down 1).

On primaries Labor is on 34% (steady) and the Coalition is up two points to 45%. The Greens lead the minor parties with 12% (up 1). Family First is on 2% (steady), and independents are on 5% (down 1). Other parties are on 3% (down 1).

The Liberal and National parties would win an election held now with a two-party preferred swing of around 3%.

When the two-party vote is calculated by *how respondents said they would allocate preferences*, the result is Coalition 52% (up 1) ahead of the ALP on 48% (down 1).

[Compared to the Nielsen Poll taken 18-20 October 2012, none of the movements in two-party and primary vote are statistically significant.]

The leaders

Ms Gillard's approval rating is 47% (steady). Disapproval of Ms Gillard is 48% (steady), giving her a net approval of minus 1 which is unchanged from last month.

Mr Abbott's approval is 36% (down 1). Disapproval of Mr Abbott is steady at 60%. Mr Abbott's net approval is down one to -24%, a new personal record low.

[None of the changes in approval for Ms Gillard or Mr Abbott are statistically significant.]

Ms Gillard has a nine point lead over Mr Abbott as preferred Prime Minister. Ms Gillard is on 51% (up 1) and Mr Abbott is on 42% (up 2).

[Ms Gillard's lead over Mr Abbott as preferred PM is statistically significant. Changes in levels of support for the leaders are not statistically significant.]

Questions

- Q.1a If a Federal Election for the House of Representatives were held today, which party would receive your first preference vote - ALP, Liberal, National, Greens, Independent, Family First, Other?
- Q.1b [IF UNDECIDED] Which party do you have a leaning towards at present?
- Q.1c [IF MINOR PARTY SUPPORT] At a Federal Election you will be required to vote for all candidates in your electorate in order of preference. Given this, will you give a higher preference to the Labor Party candidate or the Liberal/National Party candidate?
- Q.2a How strongly do you approve or disapprove of the performance of Ms Gillard as Prime Minister? Do you strongly approve, approve, disapprove or strongly disapprove of her performance?
- Q.2b How strongly do you approve or disapprove of the performance of Mr Abbott as Leader of the Opposition? Do you strongly approve, approve, disapprove or strongly disapprove of his performance?
- Q.3 Who is your preferred Prime Minister?

Poll Profile

Fieldwork Dates	: 15-17 November 2012
Sample Size	: 1,400 respondents
Sample Spread	: Nationwide, 18+
Method	: Telephone

The maximum margin of sampling error that might apply given this sample size is approximately 2.6%. Telephone numbers were selected at random. The data has been weighted to reflect the population distribution.

OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR CHILD ABUSE ROYAL COMMISSION

Key findings

- *95% of Australians support the establishment of the Royal Commission to inquire into institutional responses to instances and allegations of child abuse in Australia*
- *63% (down 4 points since August) support offshore processing of asylum seekers in Papua New Guinea and Nauru*
- *53% say returning the federal budget to surplus should be a high priority*

More than nine in ten Australians support the establishment of the Royal Commission to inquire into institutional responses to instances and allegations of child abuse in Australia according to the latest Nielsen Poll.

The national poll of 1,400 respondents, taken from Thursday to Saturday (15-17 November) found that 95% support the establishment of the Royal Commission.

CHILD ABUSE ROYAL COMMISSION (%)	15-17 Nov 2012	ALP voters	L/NP voters	GRN voters
Support	95	97	93	98
Oppose	3	2	4	1

Asylum seekers

A majority of Australians (63%, down 4 points since August) support the decision to resume offshore processing of asylum seekers. Support was highest among Coalition voters (76%) and lowest among Green voters (40%).

OFFSHORE PROCESSING IN PNG AND NAURU (%)	23-25 Aug 2012	15-17 Nov 2012	ALP voters	L/NP voters	GRN voters
Support	67	63	56	76	40
Oppose	27	30	37	19	54

Federal Budget Surplus

A majority of voters (53%) believe a return to surplus in the federal budget should be a high priority, while 41% say it should be a low priority.

FEDERAL BUDGET SURPLUS SHOULD BE... (%)	15-17 Nov 2012	ALP voters	L/NP voters	GRN voters
High Priority	53	49	61	39
Low Priority	41	45	36	52

Questions

Q.7 Do you support or oppose the decision to resume offshore processing of asylum seekers in Papua New Guinea and Nauru? Is that strongly support / support / oppose / strongly oppose?

READ OUT 1-4	SINGLE RESPONSE
Strongly support	24%
Support	39%
Oppose	15%
Strongly oppose	15%
DO NOT READ OUT	
Neither support nor oppose	4%
Don't know	3%

Q.8 Do you support or oppose the establishment of the Royal Commission to inquire into institutional responses to instances and allegations of child abuse in Australia? Is that strongly support / support / oppose / strongly oppose?

READ OUT 1-4	SINGLE RESPONSE
Strongly support	71%
Support	24%
Oppose	2%
Strongly oppose	1%
DO NOT READ OUT	
Neither support nor oppose	1%
Don't know	1%

Q.9 Do you think returning the federal budget to surplus should be...

READ OUT AND ROTATE 1-2	SINGLE RESPONSE
A high priority	53%
A low priority	41%
DO NOT READ OUT	
Don't know	5%

Poll Profile

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ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL VOTING INTENTION & LEADERSHIP APPROVAL											
	2-4 Feb 2012	22-23 Feb 2012	29-31 Mar 2012	9-10 May 2012	31 May 2 Jun 2012	28-30 Jun 2012	26-28 Jul 2012	23-25 Aug 2012	13-15 Sep 2012	18-20 Oct 2012	15-17 Nov 2012
Sample Size	n=1400	n=1200	n=1400	n=1200	n=1400	n=1400	n=1400	n=1400	n=1400	n=1400	n=1400
Margin of Error %	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.8%	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.8%	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.6%	+/- 2.6%
Labor	33	34	27	28	26	28	30	32	34	34	34
Coalition	45	44	47	49	48	48	47	45	45	43	45
Greens	13	12	13	12	14	12	12	11	10	11	12
Independent	5	6	6	5	6	5	5	6	5	6	5
Family First	1	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Other	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	3
<i>Two Party Preferred (by how respondents said they would allocate preferences)</i>											
Labor	48	48	44	42	43	42	45	46	47	49	48
Coalition	52	52	56	58	57	58	55	54	53	51	52
<i>Two Party Preferred (by how preferences flowed in 2010 election)</i>											
Labor	47	47	43	42	43	42	44	46	47	48	47
Coalition	53	53	57	58	57	58	56	54	53	52	53
<i>Prime Minister Performance</i>											
Approve	40	36	36	35	36	35	37	39	42	47	47
Disapprove	55	60	59	60	60	60	58	57	53	48	48
Uncommitted	5	4	4	5	4	4	5	5	5	4	4
<i>Opposition Leader's Performance</i>											
Approve	41	41	39	44	39	39	39	39	36	37	36
Disapprove	54	56	56	52	57	55	56	57	59	60	60
Uncommitted	5	4	4	4	4	6	5	4	4	3	5
<i>Preferred Prime Minister</i>											
Gillard	48	46	45	42	44	42	43	46	47	50	51
Abbott	46	47	48	50	46	46	48	45	44	40	42
Uncommitted	7	7	6	8	10	12	9	10	9	9	8

The Nielsen poll is conducted on the telephone nationwide.

Uncommitted voters were redistributed. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

