

Tuesday, 23 September 2014

Increasing majority of Australians say no to the burka – up from August 2010

A special snap SMS Morgan Poll today shows an increasing majority of Australians (55.5%, up 3.5% from August 2010) say that women should not be allowed to wear the burka in public places while 44.5% say they should be allowed. Today's special SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a cross-section of 1,328 Australians.

In addition, respondents who said women should be allowed to wear burkas in public places were then asked whether women should be allowed to wear a burka when giving evidence in court: Now 79.5% of Australians (down 1.5% since August 2010) say women should not be allowed to wear a burka while giving evidence in court whereas only 20.5% (up 1.5%) say they should be allowed.

Analysis by Voting Preference

Analysing the results by voting preference shows Liberal voters strongly against women having the right to wear the burka in public places (70.5% against cf. 29.5% allowed) as are National voters (63.5% cf. 36.5%), however both ALP voters (44% cf. 56%) and Greens voters (20.5% cf. 79.5%) are in favour of allowing women to wear burkas in public.

Analysis by Gender

Analysis by gender shows both men and women are opposed to women being allowed to wear the burka in public places:

- Men: Against wearing the burka in public places (57.5%) cf. allowed to wear the burka in public places (42.5%);
- Women: Against wearing the burka in public places (53%) cf. allowed to wear the burka in public places (47%).

Analysis by Age

Analysing by age shows a majority of younger Australians (under 35) are in favour of allowing women to wear the burka in public places whereas a majority of older Australians (35+) are opposed:

- 18-24yr olds: Against wearing burka in public places (32.5%) cf. allowed to wear the burka in public places (67.5%);
- 25-34yr olds: Against wearing burka in public places (38%) cf. allowed to wear the burka in public places (62%);
- 35-49yr olds: Against wearing burka in public places (51%) cf. allowed to wear the burka in public places (49%);
- 50-64yr olds: Against wearing burka in public places (65.5%) cf. allowed to wear the burka in public places (34.5%);
- 65+yr olds: Against wearing burka in public places (72%) cf. allowed to wear the burka in public places (28%).

Analysis by State

Analysing by State shows a majority of respondents in all six States believe women should not be allowed to wear the burka in public places: NSW (54% against cf. 46% allowed), Victoria (55% cf. 45%), Queensland (57.5% cf. 42.5%), Western Australia (60.5% cf. 39.5%), South Australia (57% cf. 43%) and Tasmania (54% cf. 46%).

Gary Morgan says:

“An increasing majority of Australians (55.5%, up 3.5% since August 2010) are against women being allowed to wear the burka in public places while 44.5% (down 3.5%) say women should be allowed to wear the burka according to a special snap SMS Morgan Poll of 1,328 Australians today.

“Large majorities of L-NP voters (70.5%) and National voters (63.5%) say women should not be allowed to wear the burka in public places whereas majorities of both ALP voters (56%) and Greens voters (79.5%) say women should be allowed to wear the burka in public places.

“A majority of both men (57.5%) and women (53%) say women should not be allowed to wear the burka in public places, although there is a definite split by age group. Older Australians (aged 35+) are against women being allowed to wear the burka in public places whereas a majority of younger Australians (18-34) say women should be allowed to wear the burka.

“A large majority of Australians (79.5%) said women should not be allowed to wear the burka while giving evidence in court. A majority of Australians of both genders and all ages, States and political support were against women being allowed to wear the burka while giving evidence in court.”

Finding No. 5825 – This special snap SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a representative cross-section of 1,328 Australians today, Tuesday September 23, 2014. They were asked “Should women be allowed to wear a burka in public places?” Respondents who answered ‘Yes’ were then asked: “Should women be allowed to wear a burka when giving evidence in court?”

Roy Morgan SMS Polling was extremely accurate at both the last two Federal Elections: See 2014 Accuracy Results here.

Results analysed by Roy Morgan Helix Personas are available on a subscription basis. www.HelixPersonas.com.au

For further information:

Contact	Office	Mobile
Gary Morgan:	+61 3 9224 5213	+61 411 129 094
Michele Levine:	+61 3 9224 5215	+61 411 129 093

Margin of Error

The margin of error to be allowed for in any estimate depends mainly on the number of interviews on which it is based. The following table gives indications of the likely range within which estimates would be 95% likely to fall, expressed as the number of percentage points above or below the actual estimate. The figures are approximate and for general guidance only, and assume a simple random sample. Allowance for design effects (such as stratification and weighting) should be made as appropriate.

Sample Size	Percentage Estimate			
	40%-60%	25% or 75%	10% or 90%	5% or 95%
1,000	±3.2	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4

Questions: Australians were asked: "Should women be allowed to wear a burka in public places?"

Voting Preference

	Aug 6, <u>2010</u>	Sept 23, <u>2014</u>	Electors	Liberal	National	ALP	Greens	Other	Can't say	Non Electors
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No	52	55.5	55	70.5	63.5	44	20.5	62	55.5	58
Yes	48	44.5	45	29.5	36.5	56	79.5	38	44.5	42
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Age & Gender

	Sept 23, <u>2014</u>	Gender		Age				
		Men	Women	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No	55.5	57.5	53	32.5	38	51	65.5	72
Yes	44.5	42.5	47	67.5	62	49	34.5	28
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

State & City/ Country

	Sept 23, <u>2014</u>	State						Region	
		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	City	Country
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No	55.5	54	55	57.5	60.5	57	54	51	62
Yes	44.5	46	45	42.5	39.5	43	46	49	38
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Australians who answered yes were then asked: "Should women be allowed to wear a burka when giving evidence in court?"

Voting Preference

	Aug 6, 2010	Sept 23, 2014	Electors	Liberal	National	ALP	Greens	Other	Can't say	Non Electors
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No (Q1)	52	55.5	55	70.5	63.5	44	20.5	62	55.5	58
No (Q2)	29	24	23.5	16.5	24.5	28.5	30.5	23	35.5	24.5
No (Total)	81	79.5	78.5	87	88	72.5	51	85	91	82.5
Yes (Q2)	19	20.5	21.5	13	12	27.5	49	15	9	17.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Age & Gender

	Sept 23, 2014	Gender		Age				
		Men	Women	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No (Q1)	55.5	57.5	53	32.5	38	51	65.5	72
No (Q2)	24	24	24	25	22.5	30	19	18.5
No (Total)	79.5	81.5	77	57.5	60.5	81	84.5	90.5
Yes (Q2)	20.5	18.5	23	42.5	39.5	19	15.5	9.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

State & City/ Country

	Sept 23, 2014	State						Region	
		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	City	Country
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No (Q1)	55.5	54	55	57.5	60.5	57	54	51	62
No (Q2)	24	28.5	20.5	24	24	20	10.5	24.5	23
No (Total)	79.5	82.5	75.5	81.5	84.5	77	64.5	75.5	85
Yes (Q2)	20.5	17.5	24.5	18.5	15.5	23	35.5	24.5	15
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Morgan Poll Accuracy — Recent Elections State & Federal (2006 – 2013)

The Morgan Poll has proven to be consistently the most accurate regular poll in recent Australian Elections — including the 2013 Federal Election, 2010 Federal Election, 2007 Federal Election, 2010 Victorian State Election & 2012 Queensland State Election.

The **Morgan Poll** was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2013 Federal Election](#) for the two-party preferred vote (L-NP: 53.5% cf. ALP 46.5%) (sample 4,937 electors).

The **Morgan Poll** was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2007 Federal Election](#) for both primary vote and two-party preferred predictions (sample 2,115 electors).

The **Morgan Poll** accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Queensland Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 604 electors).

The **Morgan Poll** accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Victorian Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 956 electors). The **Morgan Poll** was also the most accurate on the primary vote of the major parties for the Victorian election.

Note: The [discussion on Possum Pollytics](#) regarding Morgan and Newspoll is well worth reading.

The following included comment says it all: “I find it interesting that for the only poll in the last five years for which there is any ‘real’ figure with which to compare, i.e. the polls immediately before the 2004 election, Morgan (45.5%) was closer to the actual Coalition Primary (46.7%) than Newspoll (45%) or Nielsen (49%), and Morgan (38.5%) was also closer to the ALP actual primary (37.6%) than Newspoll (39%), and only marginally further away than Nielsen (37%). Since we have no idea of how far away the ongoing polls are from ‘reality’ (whatever that means), surely we should just go with what we know, that in the most recent testable case, Morgan was better at forecasting the actual primary vote than Newspoll. On what possible basis should we decide that the Newspoll or Nielsen primary vote estimate is ‘better’ than Morgan’s.”

[View Federal Voting Intention Trend](#)