

Wednesday, 24 September 2014

Australians support joining US airstrikes in Syria

A special snap SMS Morgan Poll shows a majority of Australians (58.5%) support Australia joining US-led airstrikes in Syria and 41.5% do not support. Today's special SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a cross-section of 1,206 Australians.

Analysis by Voting Preference

Analysing the results by voting preference shows support for Australia joining the US-led airstrikes in Syria from Liberal voters (75% support cf. 25% against) and National voters (70% support cf. 30% against) while a majority of ALP voters are against (54%) cf. approve (46%). Greens voters are clearly against joining US-led airstrikes in Syria (79.5% against cf. 20.5% support).

Analysis by Gender

Analysis by gender shows a clear gender split with men heavily in support and women evenly split:

- Men: Support (68%) cf. against (32%);
- Women: Support (49.5%) cf. against (50.5%).

Analysis by Age

Analysing by age shows younger Australians (under 35) against joining US-led airstrikes in Syria while older Australians (35+) show strong support:

- 18-24yr olds: Against (56%) cf. support (44%);
- 25-34yr olds: Against (53.5%) cf. support (46.5%);
- 35-49yr olds: Support (61%) cf. against (39%);
- 50-64yr olds: Support (60%) cf. against (40%);
- 65+yr olds: Support (69%) cf. against (39%).

Gary Morgan says:

"A majority (58.5%) of Australians support Australia joining US airstrikes in Syria according to a special snap SMS Morgan Poll conducted today. Support is strongest amongst Liberal voters (75% support) and National voters (70% support) while both ALP voters (56% against) and Greens voters (79.5% against) are opposed to the idea.

"Support for joining US airstrikes in Syria (58.5%) is slightly higher than for sending 600 Australian troops to Iraq (54% support last week, September 15, 2014). Analysing the results closely show there are similar splits along party-lines, and also with age and gender.

"Support for joining US airstrikes in Syria is much stronger amongst men (68% support cf. 32% against), while women are evenly split (49.5% support cf. 50.5% against). Older Australians aged 35+ clearly support the idea and Australians aged 18-34 are opposed."

Finding No. 5828 – This special snap SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a representative cross-section of 1,206 Australian electors today, Wednesday September 24, 2014. They were asked "Do you support Australia joining the US airstrikes in Syria?"

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

Question:

Australian Electors were asked (September 24, 2015): "Do you support Australia joining the US airstrikes in Syria?"

Australian Electors were asked (September 15, 2014): "Do you approve or disapprove of the decision to send 600 Australian troops to Iraq?"

Previous question asked in May 1965: "Do you approve or disapprove of the decision to send 800 Australian troops to South Vietnam?"

Previous question asked in 1990, 1991, 2002 and 2003: "About Australians being part of an American military force used to depose Saddam Hussein, do you approve or disapprove of Australians being part of the American military force?"

Australian Troop deployments – Vietnam, Gulf War, Iraq War, Iraq (2014)

	Vietnam War	Gulf War (1991)		Iraq War (2003)			Iraq (2014)	Syria (2014)
	May 1965*	Dec 1990*	Feb 1991*	Sep 2002*	Dec 2002*	Mar 24-25, 2003*	Sep 15, 2014	Sep 24, 2014
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Approve/Yes	58.5	57	72	43	46	52	54	58.5
Disapprove/ No	41.5	43	28	57	54	48	46	41.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

*Undecided electors in May 1965 (11%); December 1990 (5%); February 1991 (3%); September 2002 (6%); December 2002 (3%); March 19-20, 2003 (5%) & March 24-25, 2003 (3.5%).

Voting Preference

	Total	Electors	Liberal	National	ALP	Greens	Other	Can't say	Non Electors
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	58.5	57.5	75	70	46	20.5	56.5	62	62.5
No	41.5	42.5	25	30	54	79.5	43.5	38	37.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Age & Gender

	Total	Gender		Age				
		Men	Women	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	58.5	68	49.5	44	46.5	61	60	69
No	41.5	32	50.5	56	53.5	39	40	31
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

State & City/ Country

	Total	State						Region	
		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	City	Country
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	58.5	59	59	60	58.5	49	51.5	56.5	61
No	41.5	41	41	40	41.5	51	48.5	43.5	39
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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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

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](#)