

Thursday, 8 September 2016

Now 'too close to call' in New South Wales as Baird support slips while ALP has slight lead in Western Australia and a clear lead in Victoria

In NSW the Baird Government has now lost its strong lead: L-NP 50.5% (down 3%) cf. ALP 49.5% (up 3%) and in WA the Mark McGowan-led ALP Opposition now has the lead heading towards next year's WA State Election: ALP 51% (up 2%) cf. L-NP 49% (down 2%).

In Victoria support for the Andrews Government is virtually unchanged with two-party support: ALP 55.5% cf. L-NP 44.5% while in Queensland support for the ALP 50% (unchanged) is level with the L-NP 50% (unchanged). This SMS Morgan Poll on State voting intention was conducted in August with a representative cross-section of 5,490 Australian electors.

NEW SOUTH WALES: Election would be too close to call

2PP: L-NP 50.5% (down 3% since May 20-22, 2016) cf. ALP 49.5% (up 3%).

Primary vote: L-NP 39% (down 7%), ALP 30.5% (up 1.5%), Greens 13% (down 4%), One Nation 6% (up 6%), Christian Democrats 2.5% (unchanged) and Independents/ Others 9% (up 3.5%).

Better Premier: Premier Mike Baird (Liberal) v Luke Foley (ALP):

Mr. Baird 56% (down 6%) cf. Mr. Foley 44% (up 6%); Lead to Mr. Baird 12% (down 12%).

New South Wales real unemployment is now 8.9% (down 2.3% since March-April 2016) and under-employment is 7.8% (up 0.5%). This means total New South Wales unemployment & under-employment is 16.7% (down 1.8%). (Interviewed June-July 2016).

New South Wales State Election is due to be held in March 2019.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Election would be too close to call

2PP: ALP 51% (up 2% since May 20-22, 2016) cf. L-NP 49% (down 2%).

Primary vote: Liberal 34.5% (down 2%), WA Nationals 6.5% (down 0.5%), ALP 35.5% (up 1.5%), Greens 12.5% (unchanged), One Nation 5% (up 5%), Christians 2% (down 0.5%) and Independents/ Others 4% (down 3.5%).

Better Premier: Premier Colin Barnett (Liberal) v Mark McGowan (ALP):

Mr. McGowan 57% (down 3.5%) cf. Mr. Barnett 43% (up 3.5%); Lead to Mr McGowan 14% (down 7%).

Western Australian real unemployment is now 10.1% (up 2.4% since February-April 2016) and under-employment is 6.7% (down 2.8%). This means total Western Australian unemployment & under-employment is 16.8% (down 0.4%). (Interviewed May-July 2016).

Western Australian State Election is due to be held in March 2017.

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QUEENSLAND: ALP would win close election

2PP: ALP 50% (unchanged since May 20-22, 2016) cf. LNP 50% (unchanged). **Female electors:** ALP 51% (down 2%) cf. L-NP 49% (up 2%). **Male electors:** LNP 51.5% (down 1.5%) cf. ALP 48.5% (up 1.5%).

Primary vote electors: LNP 38.5% (down 2%), ALP 36.5% (up 1%), Greens 9.5% (down 1%), One Nation 8.5% (up 8.5%), Katter's Australian Party 2.5% (down 2%), Family First 1% (down 0.5%), Independents/ Others 3.5% (down 4%). **Female electors:** ALP 37% (down 3.5%), LNP 37% (down 2%), Greens 11% (up 2%), One Nation 8.5% (up 8.5%), Katter's Australian Party 2% (down 2.5%), Family First 1% (down 0.5%), Independents/ Others 3.5% (down 2%). **Male electors:** LNP 40.5% (down 2%), ALP 35.5% (up 5.5%), Greens 8.5% (down 3.5%), One Nation 8% (up 8%), Katter's Australian Party 3.5% (down 1%), Family First 1% (down 1%), Independents/ Others 3% (down 6%).

Better Premier: Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk (ALP) v Tim Nicholls (LNP) electors:

Ms. Palaszczuk 58% (up 0.5%) cf. Mr. Nicholls 42% (down 0.5%); Lead to Ms Palaszczuk 16% (up 1%).

Female electors: Ms. Palaszczuk 63% (down 1%) cf. Mr. Nicholls 37% (up 1%). Lead to Ms. Palaszczuk 26% (down 2%). **Male electors:** Ms. Palaszczuk 52.5% (up 2%) cf. Mr. Nicholls 47.5% (down 2%). Lead to Ms. Palaszczuk 5% (up 4%).

Queensland real unemployment is now 11.5% (down 0.2% since March-April 2016) and under-employment is 10.1% (up 1.5%). This means total Queensland unemployment & under-employment is 21.6% (up 1.3%). (Interviewed June-July 2016).

Queensland State Election is due to be held in early 2018.

VICTORIA: ALP would win an Election comfortably

2PP: ALP 55.5% (down 0.5% since May 20-22, 2016) cf. L-NP 44.5% (up 0.5%).

Primary vote: ALP 37% (down 3.5%), L-NP 36% (down 2%), Greens 13.5% (up 0.5%), Derryn Hinch's Justice Party 7% (up 7%), Family First 1.5% (up 0.5%) and Independents/ Others 5% (down 2.5%).

Better Premier: Premier Daniel Andrews (ALP) v Matthew Guy (Liberal):

Mr. Andrews 59% (down 4.5%) cf. Mr. Guy 41% (up 4.5%); Lead to Mr. Andrews 18% (down 9%).

Victorian real unemployment is now 9.7% (down 0.6% since March-April 2016) and under-employment is 8.3% (up 0.8%). This means total Victorian unemployment & under-employment is 18.0% (up 0.2%). (Interviewed June-July 2016).

Victorian State Election is due to be held in November 2018.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: L-NP would win election

2PP: L-NP 55% (up 3% since May 20-22, 2016) cf. ALP 45% (down 3%).

Primary vote: L-NP 37% (up 6%), ALP 24.5% (down 1%), Xenophon 21% (down 7%), Greens 9.5% (up 1.5%), Family First 5.5% (up 0.5%), and Independents/ Others 2.5% (unchanged).

Better Premier: Premier Jay Weatherill (ALP) v Steven Marshall (Liberal):

Mr. Weatherill 50% (down 5%) cf. Mr. Marshall 50% (up 5%); Lead to Mr Weatherill 0% (down 10%).

South Australian real unemployment is now 13.2% (up 2.4% since February-April 2016) and under-employment is 9.5% (up 0.4%). This means total South Australian unemployment & under-employment is 22.7% (up 2.8%). (Interviewed May-July 2016).

South Australian State Election is due to be held in March 2018

TASMANIA: ALP would win Election

2PP: ALP 54% (up 2% since May 20-22, 2016) cf. Liberals 46% (down 2%). Estimate: 2PP vote is not applicable to the Tasmanian lower house which uses the Hare-Clark proportional voting system.

Primary vote: Liberals 37.5% (down 3.5%), ALP 36% (up 1.5%), Greens 15.5% (down 1.5%), Jacqui Lambie Network 6% (up 6%) and Independents/ Others 5% (down 2.5%).

Better Premier: Premier Will Hodgman (Liberal) v Bryan Green (ALP):

Mr. Hodgman 57.5% (up 1%) cf. Mr. Green 42.5% (down 1%); Lead to Mr Hodgman 15% (up 2%).

Tasmanian real unemployment is now 12.2% (up 0.5% since February-April 2016) and under-employment is 11.2% (up 0.5%). This means total Tasmanian unemployment & under-employment is 23.4% (up 1%). (Interviewed May-July 2016).

Tasmanian State Election is due to be held before December 31, 2018.

Gary Morgan, Executive Chairman, Roy Morgan Research, says:

*"Today's special SMS State Morgan Poll conducted Australia-wide in August shows a clear tightening of support in **New South Wales** after Premier Mike Baird's contentious council amalgamations program in May and the controversial decision to close down the entire NSW greyhound industry in mid-July. Baird's L-NP Government 50.5% (down 3% since May) is now only in front of the Opposition ALP 49.5% (up 3%) by a 'smidgin' on a two-party preferred basis.*

"In addition, Baird's personal popularity has taken a further fall with Baird now only Australia's fourth most popular State Premier: Mike Baird 56% (down 6%) cf. Opposition Leader Luke Foley 44% (up 6%) as 'Better Premier'.

*"In **Western Australia** which is the next State to vote in a State Election (due in March 2017), the ALP Opposition 51% (up 2%) now has a narrow lead over Premier Colin Barnett's L-NP Government 49% (down 2%) on a two-party preferred basis, however. Despite a small fall in personal support Opposition Leader Mark McGowan 57.5% (down 3.5%) is clearly still preferred to Premier Colin Barnett 42.5% (up 3.5%) as 'Better Premier'.*

*"In **Victoria** despite recent controversies about the ALP Government's policies regarding the Country Fire Authority (CFA), the ALP 55.5% (down 0.5%) maintains a strong two-party preferred lead over the L-NP 44.5% (up 0.5%). However, Premier Daniel Andrews has taken a hit to his personal support in recent months as 'Better Premier': Daniel Andrews 59% (down 4.5%) cf. Opposition Leader Matthew Guy 41% (up 4.5%).*

"After his successful election to the Australian Senate, former broadcaster and television personality Derryn Hinch has attracted a fair amount of support in Victoria – 7% of Victorians now say they would support Derryn Hinch's Justice Party at a Victorian State Election.

*"There is little change in **Queensland** over the past few months with the ALP 50% (unchanged) still dead-level with the Opposition LNP 50% (unchanged) on a two-party preferred basis. In addition, Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk 58% (up 0.5%) has a largely unchanged lead over Opposition Leader Tim Nicholls 42% (down 0.5%) as 'Better Premier'.*

*"In **South Australia** it appears the successful performance of the Nick Xenophon Team (NXT) at the recent Federal Election may have dented NXT's credibility as true political 'outsiders' – support for NXT dropped to 21% (down 7%) in August. However, despite losing a seat to NXT at the recent Federal Election the South Australian L-NP 55% (up 3%) now hold a strong lead over the ALP Government 45% (down 3%) on a two-party preferred basis. However, electors are divided on which leader they prefer as 'Better Premier' with South Australian Premier Jay Weatheri 50% (down 5%) level with Liberal Party Opposition Leader Steven Marshall 50% (up 5%).*

*"In **Tasmania** the ALP Opposition 54% (up 2%) has increased it's lead over the L-NP Government 46% (down 2%) on a two-party preferred basis although Liberal Premier Will Hodgman 57.5% (up 1%) is now clearly preferred to ALP Opposition Leader Bryan Green 42.5% (down 1%) as 'Better Premier'. Re-elected Tasmanian Senator Jacqui Lambie's new party is now polling at 6% in Tasmania."*

For the poll-watchers:

Electors were asked: *“If a State Election for NSW/ Victoria/ Queensland/ WA/ SA/ Tasmania were being held today — which party would receive your first preference?”* Electors were then asked: *“Thinking of (Premier) and (Opposition Leader). In your opinion, who would make the better Premier?”*

The SMS Morgan Poll on State voting intention and preferred Premiers was conducted between August 19-22, 2016 with a cross-section of 5,490 Australian electors including 1,360 New South Wales electors, 1,231 Victorian electors, 858 Queensland electors, 806 Westralian electors, 553 South Australian electors and 321 Tasmanian electors.

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