

Monday, 20 October 2014

## **L-NP gains ground on ALP after Abbott threatens to ‘shirt-front’ Putin at G20**

**In mid-October L-NP support rose to 48% (up 1%) but still trails the ALP 52% (down 1%) on a two-party preferred basis. If an election had been held the ALP would have won in a close election according to this week’s Morgan Poll on voting intention conducted with an Australia-wide cross-section of 3,131 Australian electors aged 18+ over the last two weekends.**

Primary support for the L-NP was down 0.5% to 39.5% while ALP support rose 0.5% to 35.5%. Support for the other parties shows The Greens were at 12% (unchanged), Palmer United Party (PUP) 3.5% (unchanged) while Independents/ Others was unchanged at 9.5%.

Support for PUP is highest in Queensland (7%) followed by South Australia 5%. Support for PUP is lower in the rest of Australia: Western Australia (2.5%), Victoria (2.5%), New South Wales (2%) and Tasmania (2%).

### **Analysis by Gender**

Analysis by Gender shows support is up for the L-NP amongst women: L-NP (46.5%, up 3%) cf. ALP (53.5%, down 3%). However, support for the L-NP amongst men is down slightly (49.5%, down 1%) cf. ALP (50.5%, up 1%).

### **Analysis by Age group**

Analysis by Age group shows the ALP still with its strongest advantage among younger Australians. 18-24yr olds heavily favour the ALP 65% cf. L-NP 35%; 25-34yr olds favour the ALP 64% cf. L-NP 36%; 35-49yr olds favour the ALP 53% cf. L-NP 47%; 50-64yr olds are split L-NP 50% cf. ALP 50%; and those aged 65+ still clearly favour the L-NP 62% cf. ALP 38%.

### **Analysis by States**

The ALP maintains a two-party preferred lead in five Australian States. Tasmania: ALP 56% cf. L-NP 44%; Victoria: ALP 55% cf. L-NP 45%; South Australia: ALP 54.5% cf. L-NP 45.5%; New South Wales: ALP 51% cf. L-NP 49%; Queensland: ALP 51% cf. L-NP 49%. The L-NP leads in Western Australia: L-NP 55.5% cf. ALP 44.5%.

### **Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating**

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has fallen to 95.5pts this week (down 3.5pts over the past fortnight). Now 43.5% (up 2.5%) of Australians say Australia is ‘heading in the wrong direction and 39% (down 1%) say Australia is ‘heading in the right direction’.

The Morgan Poll surveys a larger sample (including people who only use a mobile phone) than any other public opinion poll. **The Morgan Poll asks Minor Party supporters which way they will vote their preferences. \*News Corp’s poll does not measure or reference the PUP vote!**

**The Morgan Poll allocated preferences based on how people say they will vote – allocating preferences by how electors voted at the last Federal Election, as used by News Corp’s poll\* also shows the ALP (52%) cf. L-NP (48 %) – for trends see the [Morgan Poll historic data table](#).**

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**Gary Morgan says:**

*“The L-NP (48%, up 1%) has closed the gap on the ALP (52%, down 1%) to the narrowest in six months after Prime Minister Tony Abbott promised to ‘shirt-front’ Russian President Vladimir Putin at next month’s G20 Leaders’ Meeting being held in Brisbane.*

*“Abbott made the statement in relation to the shooting down of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 over Eastern Ukraine in mid-July in which 298 civilians lost their lives including 38 Australian citizens and residents.*

*“Following Abbott’s comments, Foreign Minister Julie Bishop met briefly with Putin on the sidelines of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) held in Milan over the weekend. Bishop stated the talks with Putin about securing further access to the site of the crash for investigators from Australia, Malaysia and the Netherlands were constructive.*

*“The media’s continuing focus on foreign affairs – including the renewed Australian military action in Iraq and also the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and what Australia should do to assist the international response – are giving the Abbott Government the chance to show leadership.*

*“The contrast with domestic issues is striking. On the weekend Finance Minister Mathias Cormann called Opposition Leader Bill Shorten an ‘economic girly-man’ because Shorten ‘doesn’t have what it takes to repair the Federal Budget’. Engaging in name-calling of opposition politicians is not an effective way to ensure the Abbott Government passes its more contentious Budget measures which are themselves designed to reduce Australia’s Budget deficit.”*

Electors were asked: *“If an election for the House of Representatives were held today – which party will receive your first preference?”*

Visit the [Roy Morgan Online Store](#) to browse our range of [Voter Profiles](#) by electorate, detailed [Voting Intention Demographics Reports](#) and [Most important Political Issue Reports](#) (all 150 electorates ranked by an issue).

*Finding No. 5881 – This multi-mode Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted via face-to-face and SMS interviewing over the last two weekends of October 11/12 & 18/19, 2014 with an Australia-wide cross-section of 3,131 Australian electors aged 18+, of all electors surveyed 2.0% did not name a party.*

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## Federal Voting Intention Summary – House of Reps (%)

	L-NP	ALP	The Greens	Palmer United	Katter	Ind./ Others
<b>RECENT FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS</b>	%	%	%	%	%	%
Election March 2, 1996	47.3 (8.6)	38.8	1.7	0.0	0.0	12.2
Election October 3 <sup>^</sup> , 1998	39.5 (5.3)	40.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	18.3
Election November 10, 2001	43 (5.6)	37.8	4.4	0.0	0.3	13.5
Election October 9, 2004	46.4 (5.9)	37.6	7.2	0.0	0.3	8.5
Election November 24, 2007	42.1 (5.9)	43.4	7.8	0.0	0.3	6.4
Election, August 21, 2010	43.6 (3.7)	38.0	11.8	0.0	0.3	6.3
Election, September 7, 2013	45.5 (4.3)	33.4	8.7	5.5	1.0	5.9
<b>MORGAN POLL</b>						
September 21/22, 2013	43.5 (2.5)	34	10.5	4	1.5	6.5
October 5/6, 2013	42 (2)	37	9	4.5	0.5	7
October 19/20, 2013	43.5 (2.5)	34.5	10	4.5	1	6.5
November 2/3, 2013	41.5 (1.5)	35	10.5	5.5	1	6.5
November 16/17, 2013	42.5 (2.5)	32.5	11	5	1	8
November 30/ December 1, 2013	41.5 (2)	38.5	8.5	3.5	1	7
December 7/8 & 14/15, 2013	40.5 (2)	38.5	10	3.5	1	6.5
January 4/5 & 11/12, 2014	39 (2)	38	10.5	3.5	1.5	7.5
January 18/19 & 25/26, 2014	39.5 (2)	37	11.5	3	1	8
February 1/2 & 8/9, 2014	40.5 (2)	37	10.5	4.5	1	6.5
February 15/16 & 22/23, 2014	41 (2.5)	35.5	10.5	4.5	1	7.5
March 1/2 & 8/9, 2014	39.5 (2)	37	12	4	1	6.5
March 15/16 & 22/23, 2014	38 (2)	38.5	11	4.5	1	7
March 29/30 & April 5/6, 2014	38.5 (2)	34.5	12	5	1.5	8.5
April 12/13 & 19/20, 2014	38.5 (2)	34	13	5	1.5	8
April 26/27 & May 3/4, 2014	37.5 (2)	37	12	5.5	1	7
May 17/18, 2014	35 (2)	38.5	12	6.5	1.5	6.5
May 24/25 & May 31/ June 1, 2014	35 (2)	38	11	7.5	1	7.5
June 7/8, 2014	33 (1.5)	42	12	4.5	1	7.5
June 14/15, 2014	36.5 (2)	38	12	5.5	1	7
June 21/22 & 28/29, 2014	35 (2.5)	36.5	12	7	1.5	8
July 5/6 & 12/13, 2014	34 (2)	38.5	11.5	7.5	1	7.5
July 19/20 & 26/27, 2014	38 (2)	39	10.5	5	0.5	7
August 2/3 & 9/10, 2014	37.5 (2.5)	38	11	5.5	1	7
August 16/17 & 23/24, 2014	37.5 (2.5)	38.5	10.5	4.5	1.5	7.5
August 30/31 & September 6/7, 2014	38 (2.5)	37	10.5	4.5	1	9
September 13/14 & 20/21, 2014	38.5 (2)	37.5	12	4	1	7
September 27/28 & October 4/5, 2014	40 (2)	35	12	3.5	1.5	8
October 11/12 & 18/19, 2014	39.5 (2.5)	35.5	12	3.5	1	8.5

**Note:** ^ 1998 Federal election results have been updated to include results from the electorate of Newcastle supplementary election. The L-NP did not have a candidate contesting the electorate of Newcastle.

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## Federal Voting Intention Summary – House of Reps (%)

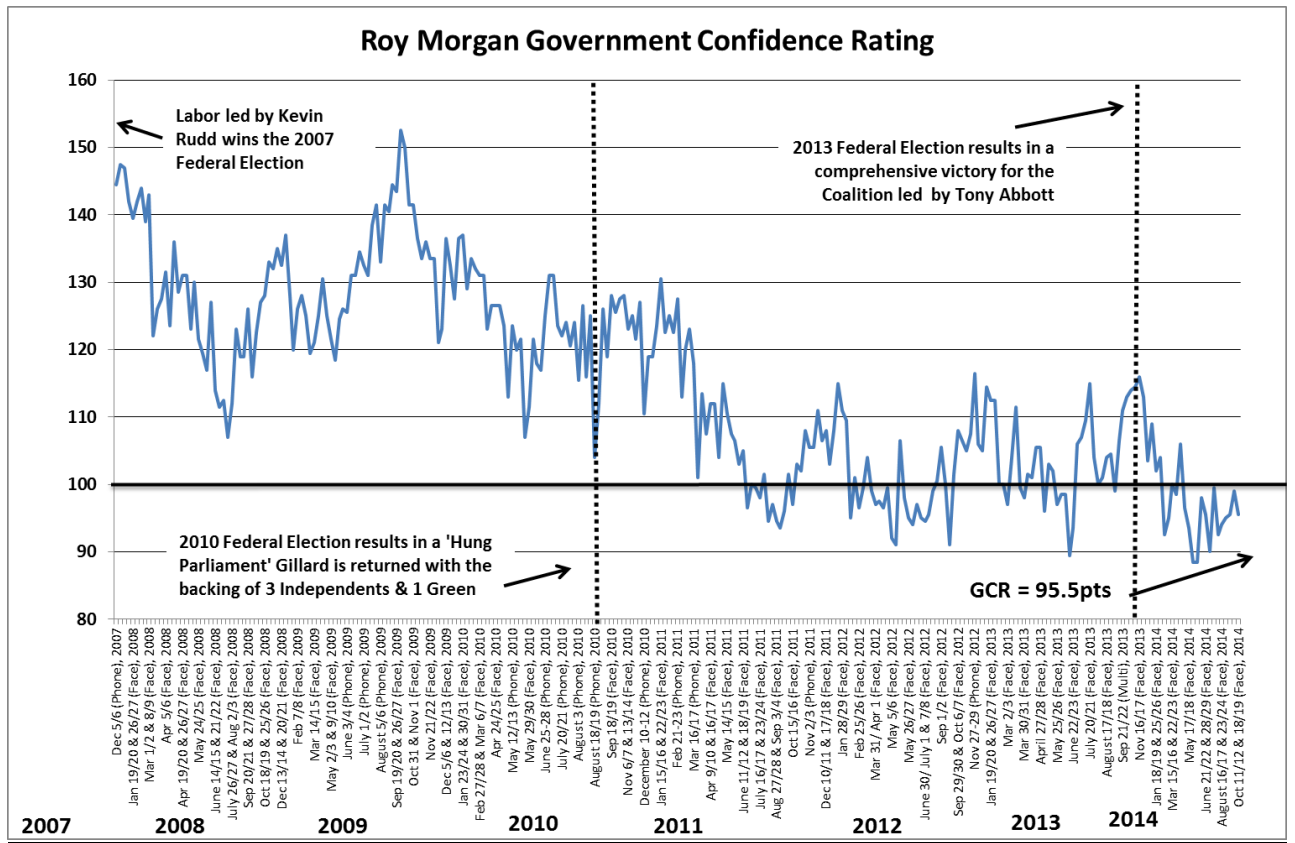
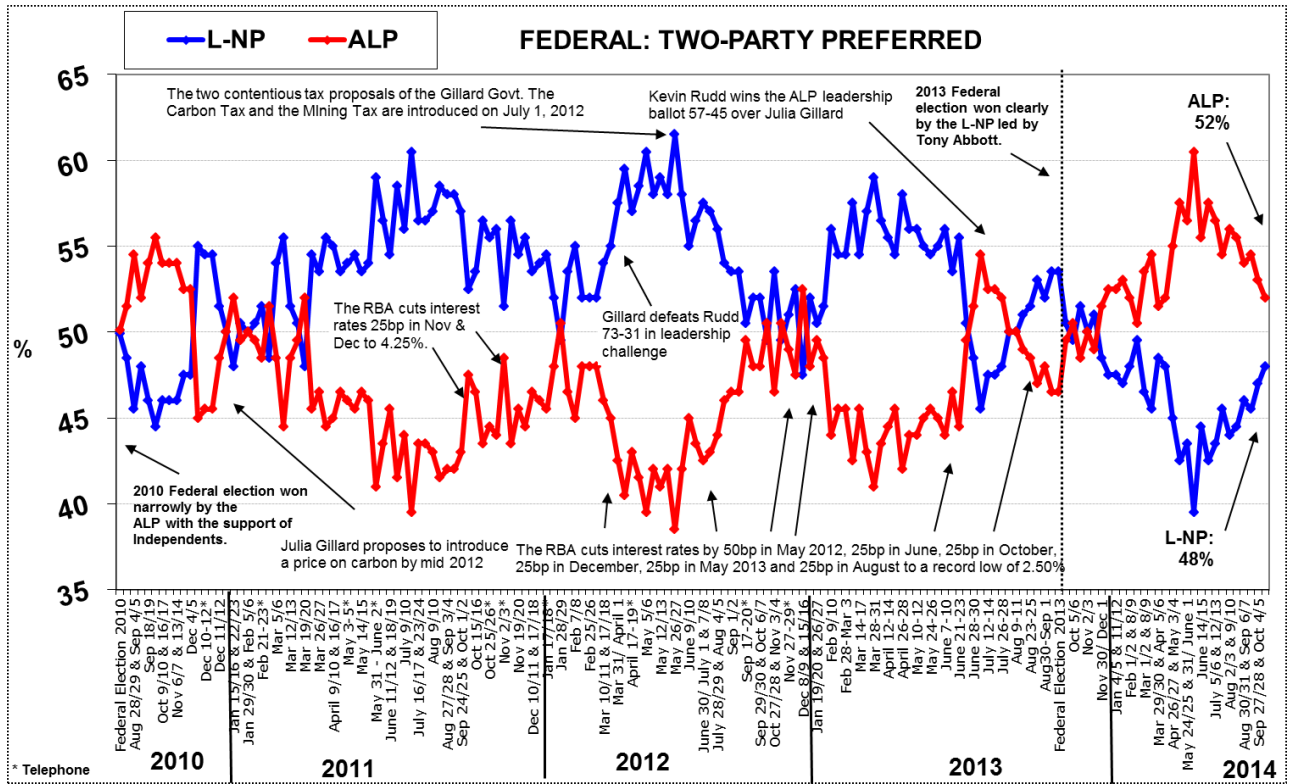
### Two-Party Preferred Vote (%)

RECENT FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS	L-NP	ALP
	%	%
Election, March 2, 1996	53.6	46.4
Election, October 3 <sup>^</sup> , 1998	49	51
Election, November 10, 2001	51	49
Election, October 9, 2004	52.7	47.3
Election, November 24, 2007	47.3	52.7
Election, August 21, 2010	49.9	50.1
Election, September 7, 2013	53.5	46.5
<b>Final Pre-Election Morgan Poll – September 4-6, 2013</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>46.5</b>

	Preferences distributed by how electors say they will vote		Preferences distributed by how electors voted at the 2013 election	
	%	%	%	%
<b>MORGAN POLL</b>	<b>L-NP</b>	<b>ALP</b>	<b>L-NP</b>	<b>ALP</b>
September 21/22, 2013	50.5	49.5	50	50
October 5/6, 2013	49.5	50.5	50	50
October 19/20, 2013	51.5	48.5	51	49
November 2/3, 2013	50	50	50	50
November 16/17, 2013	51	49	51.5	48.5
November 30/ December 1, 2013	48.5	51.5	48.5	51.5
December 7/8 & 14/15, 2013	47.5	52.5	47.5	52.5
January 4/5 & 11/12, 2014	47.5	52.5	47	53
January 18/19 & 25/26, 2014	47	53	47.5	52.5
February 1/2 & 8/9, 2014	48	52	49	51
February 15/16 & 22/23, 2014	49.5	50.5	49.5	50.5
March 1/2 & 8/9, 2014	46.5	53.5	47.5	52.5
March 15/16 & 22/23, 2014	45.5	54.5	46.5	53.5
March 29/30 & April 5/6, 2014	48.5	51.5	48	52
April 12/13 & 19/20, 2014	48	52	48	52
April 26/27 & May 3/4, 2014	45	55	46.5	53.5
May 17/18, 2014	42.5	57.5	43.5	56.5
May 24/25 & May 31/ June 1, 2014	43.5	56.5	45	55
June 7/8, 2014	39.5	60.5	41	59
June 14/15, 2014	44.5	55.5	45.5	54.5
June 21/22 & 28/29, 2014	42.5	57.5	45.5	54.5
July 5/6 & 12/13, 2014	43.5	56.5	44	56
July 19/20 & 26/27, 2014	45.5	54.5	46	54
August 2/3 & 9/10, 2014	44	56	46	54
August 16/17 & 23/24, 2014	44.5	55.5	46	54
August 30/31 & September 6/7, 2014	46	54	47	53
September 13/14 & 20/21, 2014	45.5	54.5	46.5	53.5
September 27/28 & October 4/5, 2014	47	53	48.5	51.5
October 11/12 & 18/19 2014	48	52	48	52

<sup>^</sup> 1998 Federal Election results have been updated to include results from the electorate of Newcastle supplementary election. The L-NP did not have a candidate contesting the electorate of Newcastle. \*\*Multi = Multi-mode interviewing conducted via combined methodology.

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## Australia Heading In “Right” Or “Wrong” Direction

Electors were asked: “Generally speaking, do you feel that things in Australia are heading in the right direction or would you say things are seriously heading in the wrong direction?”

	Interviewing Dates — L-NP Government (Tony Abbott v Bill Shorten)							
	Jan 4/5 & 11/12	Jan 18/19 & 25/26	Feb 1/2 & 8/9	Feb 15/16 & 22/23	Mar 1/2 & 8/9	Mar 15/16 & 22/23	Mar 29/30 & Apr 5/6	Apr 12/13 & 19/20
	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	45	41.5	43	37.5	38	41.5	39	43.5
Wrong direction	36	39.5	39	45	43	41.5	40.5	37.5
<b>Roy Morgan GCR*</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>106</b>
Can't say	19	19	18	17.5	19	17	20.5	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

	Interviewing Dates — L-NP Government (Tony Abbott v Bill Shorten)							
	Apr 26/27 & May 3/4	May 17/18	May 24/25 & 31/ June 1	June 7/8	June 14/15	June 21/22 & 28/29	July 5/6 & 12/13	July 19/20 & 26/27
	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	39.5	39	37	36	41.5	39.5	36.5	41
Wrong direction	43	45.5	48.5	47.5	43.5	44	46.5	41.5
<b>Roy Morgan GCR*</b>	<b>96.5</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>88.5</b>	<b>88.5</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>95.5</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>99.5</b>
Can't say	17.5	15.5	14.5	16.5	15	16.5	17	17.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

	Interviewing Dates — L-NP Government (Tony Abbott v Bill Shorten)							
	Aug 2/3 & 9/10	Aug 16/17 & 23/24	Aug 30/31 & Sep 6/7	Sep 13/14 & 20/21	Sep 20/27 & Oct 4/5	Oct 11/12 & 18/19		
	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face		
	%	%	%	%	%	%		
Right direction	37.5	38	38	38	40	39		
Wrong direction	45	44	43	42.5	41	43.5		
<b>Roy Morgan GCR*</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95.5</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>95.5</b>		
Can't say	17.5	18	19	19.5	19	17.5		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>		

Phone: Telephone survey method; Face: Face-to-face survey method. \*Roy Morgan GCR = Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating (100 plus the difference between the percentage of people who say the country is “going in the right direction” and the percentage who say the country is “going in seriously the wrong direction”).

## 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%
500	±4.5	±3.9	±2.7	±1.9
1,000	±3.2	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4
1,500	±2.6	±2.2	±1.5	±1.1
2,000	±2.2	±1.9	±1.3	±1.0

## **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](#)