

Monday, 24 August 2015

L-NP support increases after unions attack credibility of Trade Union Commissioner Dyson Heydon and the Abbott Government announces new policies on climate change and same-sex marriage

In mid-August L-NP support has jumped to 45.5% (up 2.5%) cf. ALP 54.5% (down 2.5%) following extensive union attacks on the credibility of Trade Union Royal Commission head Justice Dyson Heydon and following key Government announcements on policies involving climate change and same-sex marriage. However, if a Federal Election were held now the ALP would still win easily.

Primary support for the L-NP has increased to 38.5% (up 2%) while ALP support is down 1% to 36%. Support for the Greens has fallen to 14% (down 1.5%), Palmer United Party 1.5% (up 0.5%), Katter's Australian Party 1.5% (unchanged), while Independents/ Others were 8.5% (unchanged).

This week's Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted over the last two weekends, August 15/16 & 22/23, 2015, with an Australia-wide cross-section of 3,174 Australian electors.

Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has risen 9.5pts from a **record low** to 95.5pts this week with 44.5% (down 4%) of Australians saying Australia is 'heading in the wrong direction' and 40% (up 5.5%) saying Australia is 'heading in the right direction'.

Analysis by Gender

Analysis by Gender shows a majority of both genders supporting the ALP. Women: ALP 55% (down 5.5%) cf. L-NP 45% (up 5.5%); Men: ALP 53.5% (unchanged) cf. L-NP 46.5% (unchanged).

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 67% cf. L-NP 33%; 25-34yr olds also heavily favour the ALP 65.5% cf. L-NP 34.5%; 35-49yr olds favour the ALP 57% cf. L-NP 43% while 50-64yr olds narrowly favour the ALP 51% cf. L-NP 49% and those aged 65+ easily favour the L-NP 59% cf. ALP 41%.

Analysis by States

The ALP now has a two-party preferred lead in 5 Australian States. Victoria: ALP 57.5% cf. L-NP 42.5%, Western Australia: ALP 57.5% cf. L-NP 42.5%, Queensland: ALP 55.5% cf. LNP 44.5%, Tasmania: ALP 55% cf. L-NP 45%, South Australia: ALP 54.5% cf. L-NP 45.5%, while New South Wales is the only State which favours the L-NP 51.5% cf. ALP 48.5%.

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* shows the ALP (53.5%) cf. L-NP (46.5%) – for trends see the [Morgan Poll historic data table](#).

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Gary Morgan says:

“In late August L-NP support has increased 2.5% to 45.5% cf. ALP 54.5% (down 2.5%) on a two-party preferred basis after the Government moved on from the expenses issues as both sides have been shown to be misusing their travel allowances and the issue has quickly been forgotten. Dominating the headlines last week were the attacks by the unions on the credibility of Justice Dyson Heydon, the Commissioner of the Trade Union Royal Commission (TURC). Today’s Morgan Poll shows the union attacks on Heydon’s credibility have had little impact on Australian electors.

“In addition to the media interest in the TURC the Abbott Government announced policies in two key areas – climate change and same-sex marriage. The Government is committing to a reduction in Australia’s carbon dioxide emissions by a large 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2030. This is a comparable carbon dioxide cut to other developed world economies including Japan (25% cut), NZ (30% cut), Canada (30% cut) and the USA (also a 26-28% cut). The Government claims attempting to cut carbon dioxide emissions by more would cause a great deal of job losses throughout the Australian economy and isn’t economically responsible.

“As well as the new climate change policy the Government has also committed to letting the Australian people decide on the issue of same-sex marriage – rather than the politicians. The Government’s policy at the next Federal Election will be to call for either a plebiscite or a referendum during the next term of Parliament to settle the issue once and for all.

*“Strengthening support for the L-NP over the past fortnight has been matched by a **strong rise in the Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating – up 9.5pts to 95.5 and off a record low of 86 recorded in early August.** The large share-market falls seen late last week (Thursday August 20 & Friday August 21), and again today (Monday August 24) have seen the All Ordinaries Index fall from 5,379.80 (Wednesday August 19) to 5,066.00 this afternoon – a fall of 313.8pts (down 5.8% in three days) suggest there are likely to be challenging times ahead.*

“The more economic turmoil Australia faces whether from overseas and increasing concerns about China’s economic situation or internally with rising job losses – BlueScope Steel has today notified the market up to 5,000 jobs are threatened with the potential closure of the Port Kembla steelworks south of Wollongong – the more certain it is that the next election will be fought on the economic credibility of the two major political parties.”

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. 6419 – This multi-mode Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention was conducted via face-to-face and SMS interviewing over the last two weekends August 15/16 & 22/23, 2015 with an Australia-wide cross-section of 3,174 Australian electors aged 18+, of all electors surveyed 2% (down 1%) 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
RECENT FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS	%	%	%	%	%	%
Election March 2, 1996	47.3 (8.6)	38.8	1.7	0.0	0.0	12.2
Election October 3 [^] , 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
MORGAN POLL						
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
October 25/26 & November 1/2, 2014	38.5 (2)	37.5	12.5	3	1.5	7
November 8/9 & 15/16, 2014	38 (2)	38.5	12	2.5	2	7
November 22/23 & 29/30, 2014	39 (2.5)	37.5	12	2	1	8.5
December 6/7 & 13/14, 2014	35 (3)	41	11.5	2	1.5	9
January 3/4 & 10/11, 2015	38.5 (2.5)	38.5	9.5	2	2	9.5
January 23-27, 2015	37.5 (2.5)	39.5	12	3	1	7
January 31/ February 1 & 7/8, 2015	35.5 (2)	41.5	12	2	1	8
February 14/15 & 21/22, 2015	37.5 (2.5)	40.5	10	2	1.5	8.5
February 28/ March 1 & 7/8, 2015	39 (2.5)	38	11.5	2	1.5	8
March 14/15 & 21/22, 2015	38 (3)	40	11	1.5	1.5	8
March 28/29 & April 3-6, 2015	40.5 (3)	36	12.5	1.5	1.5	8
April 11/12 & 18/19, 2015	38.5 (2.5)	38	12	1	1.5	9
April 25/26 & May 2/3, 2015	40 (2.5)	37.5	11.5	1.5	1	8.5
May 16/17, 2015	41.5 (3)	35.5	12.5	1.5	1.5	7.5
May 23/24 & 30/31, 2015	41 (3)	37	13	1	1.5	6.5
June 6/7 & 13/14, 2015	37.5 (2.5)	37.5	13.5	1.5	1	9
June 20/21 & 27/28, 2015	39 (2)	36	14	1.5	1	8.5
July 4/5 & 11/12, 2015	41.5 (2.5)	34.5	13.5	1	1.5	8
July 18/19 & 25/26, 2015	39 (2.5)	35.5	15	1	1.5	8
August 1/2 & 8/9, 2015	36.5 (3)	37	15.5	1	1.5	8.5
August 15/16 & 22/23, 2015	38.5 (2.5)	36	14	1.5	1.5	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.

Federal Voting Intention Summary – House of Reps (%)

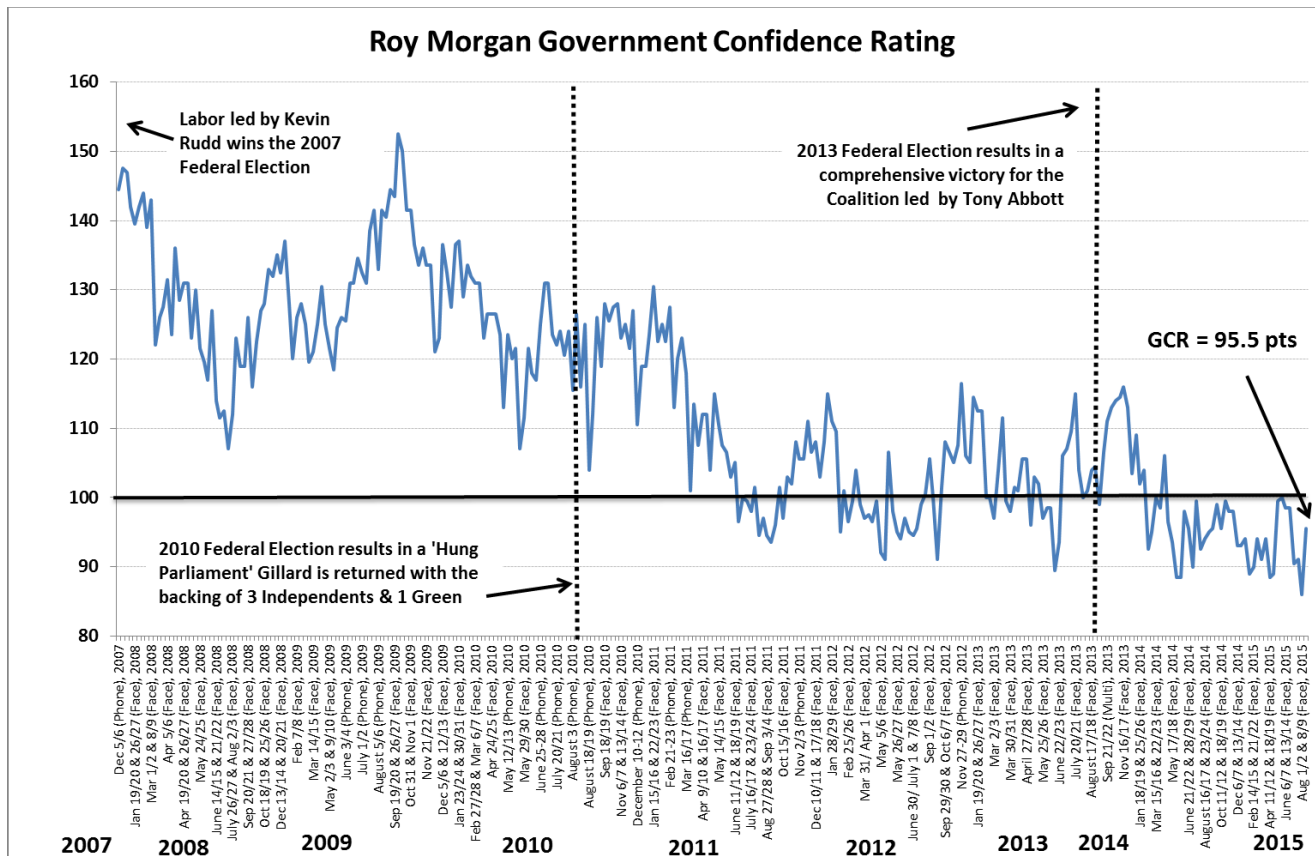
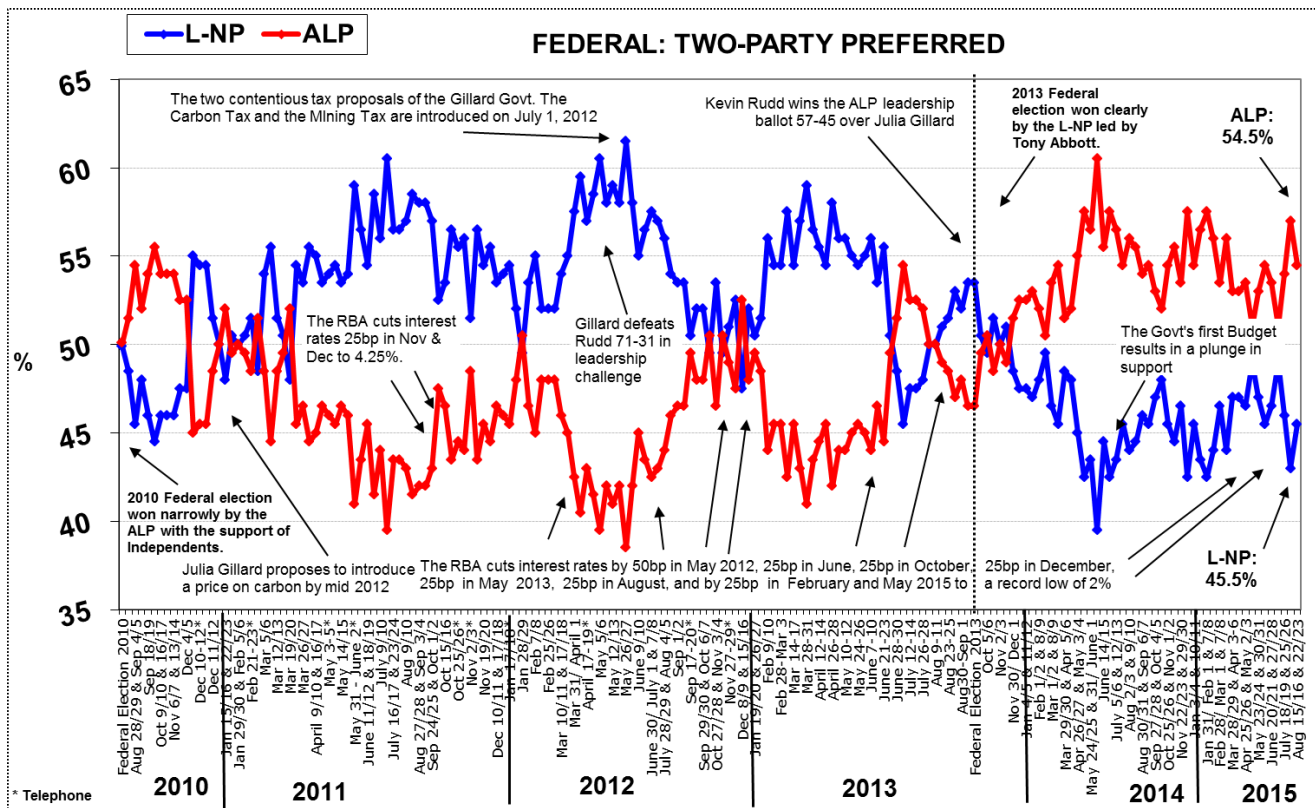
Two-Party Preferred Vote (%)

RECENT FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS	L-NP	ALP
	%	%
Election, March 2, 1996	53.6	46.4
Election, October 3 [^] , 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
Final Pre-Election Morgan Poll – September 4-6, 2013	53.5	46.5

	Preferences distributed by how electors say they will vote		Preferences distributed by how electors voted at the 2013 election	
	%	%	%	%
MORGAN POLL	L-NP	ALP	L-NP	ALP
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
October 25/26 & November 1/2, 2014	45.5	54.5	46.5	53.5
November 8/9 & 15/16, 2014	44.5	55.5	46	54
November 22/23 & 29/30, 2014	46.5	53.5	47	53
December 6/7 & 13/14, 2014	42.5	57.5	43.5	56.5
January 3/4 & 10/11, 2014	45.5	54.5	47	53
January 23-27, 2015	43.5	56.5	44.5	55.5
January 31/ February 1 & 7/8, 2015	42.5	57.5	43	57
February 14/15 & 21/22, 2015	44	56	45	55
February 28/ March 1 & 7/8, 2015	46.5	53.5	46.5	53.5
March 14/15 & 21/22, 2015	44	56	46	54
March 28/29 & April 3-6, 2015	47	53	47	53
April 11/12 & 18/19, 2015	47	53	46	54
April 25/26 & May 2/3, 2015	46.5	53.5	47	53
May 16/17, 2015	49	51	48.5	51.5
May 23/24 & 30/31, 2015	47	53	48	52
June 6/7 & 13/14, 2015	45.5	54.5	45.5	54.5
June 20/21 & 27/28, 2015	46.5	53.5	47	53
July 4/5 & 11/12, 2015	49	51	49	51
July 18/19 & 25/26, 2015	46	54	46.5	53.5
August 1/2 & 8/9, 2015	43	57	45.5	54.5
August 15/16 & 22/23, 2015	45.5	54.5	46.5	53.5

[^] 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 3/4 & 10/11	Jan 24/25	Jan 31/ Feb 1 & 7/8	Feb 14/15 & 21/22	Feb 28/ Mar 1 & 7/8	Mar 14/15 & 21/22	Mar 28/29 & April 3-6
	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	37	37.5	34.5	34.5	37.5	37	38.5
Wrong direction	44	43.5	45.5	44.5	43.5	46	44.5
Roy Morgan GCR*	93	94	89	90	94	91	94
Can't say	19	19	20	21	19	17	17
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

	Interviewing Dates — L-NP Government (Tony Abbott v Bill Shorten)							
	April 11/12 & 18/19	April 25/26 & May 2/3	May 16/17	May 23/24 & 30/31	June 6/7 & 13/14	June 20/21 & 27/28	July 4/5 & 11/12	July 18/19 & 25/26
	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face	Face
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	34	34	41.5	41.5	40	40	36	37.5
Wrong direction	45.5	45	42	41.5	41.5	41.5	45.5	46.5
Roy Morgan GCR*	88.5	89	99.5	100	98.5	98.5	90.5	91
Can't say	20.5	21	16.5	17	18.5	18.5	18.5	16
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

	Interviewing Dates — L-NP Government (Tony Abbott v Bill Shorten)						
	Aug 1/2 & 8/9	Aug 15/16 & 22/23					
	Face	Face					
	%	%					
Right direction	34.5	40					
Wrong direction	48.5	44.5					
Roy Morgan GCR*	86	95.5					
Can't say	17	15.5					
TOTAL	100	100					

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%
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 – 2015)

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](#)