

Monday, 6 June 2016

Turnbull must establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate agreements between big business and unions to underpay workers

A special snap SMS Morgan Poll shows a clear majority of Australians (77%) say the Federal Government should establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates. This special SMS Morgan Poll was conducted last night (Thursday) with a cross-section of 1,503 Australians aged 18+.

Analysis by Voting Preference

Analysing by voting preference shows a majority of supporters of all parties say the Federal Government should establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates:

- L-NP voters: Yes (85%) cf. no (15%);
- ALP voters: Yes (69%) cf. no (31%);
- Greens voters: Yes (71%) cf. no (29%);
- Independent/ Others voters: Yes (85%) cf. no (15%).

Analysis by Gender

Analysis by gender shows a slight gender split shows men and women in agreement with the proposition:

- Men: Yes (77%) cf. no (23%);
- Women: Yes (77%) cf. no (23%).

Analysis by Age

Analysing by age shows Australians of all ages in near unanimous agreement:

- 18-24yr olds: Yes (77%) cf. no (23%);
- 25-34yr olds: Yes (77%) cf. no (23%);
- 35-49yr olds: Yes (77%) cf. no (23%);
- 50-64yr olds: Yes (77%) cf. no (23%);
- 65+yr olds: Yes (78%) cf. no (22%).

Analysis by State

Analysing by State shows Queenslanders (83%) are clearly the keenest on establishing a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates although large majorities of over 70% of Australians in all other States agree as well:

- New South Wales: Yes (73%) cf. no (27%);
- Victoria: Yes (79%) cf. no (21%);
- Queensland: Yes (83%) cf. no (17%);
- Western Australia: Yes (75%) cf. no (25%);
- South Australia: Yes (77%) cf. no (23%);
- Tasmania: Yes (78%) cf. no (22%).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

“Since August 2015 when The Age broke the 7-Eleven story covering massive underpayment of workers there have been other allegations of similar fraudulent activity in underpaying other workers.

“Wednesday’s Fair Work Commission decision (June 1, 2016) overturning Coles’ enterprise agreement is a significant escalation of the IR debate on wages and over-award payments.

“Both Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten have up until now not addressed the issue.

“Turnbull & Shorten must show leadership by tackling Australia’s most significant problem of our flawed industrial relations system and the massive ‘cash economy’ – both completely ignored by the August 2015 Productivity Commission Report (draft) into Australia’s Workplace Relations Framework – which only once mentioned the ‘cash economy’!”

Finding No. 6838 – This special snap SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a representative cross-section of 1,503 Australians over the last two days, Thursday June 2, 2016 – Friday June 3, 2016. They were asked “Its been found by the Fair Work Commission that unions and large employers have agreements to pay workers below award rates. Were you aware of this?” and respondents were then asked “Should the Federal Government establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates?”

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 |

Questions:**Australians were asked (June 2-3, 2016):****Q1:** "Its been found by the Fair Work Commission that unions and large employers have agreements to pay workers below award rates. Were you aware of this?"

Of all Australians surveyed on June 2-3 only 29% had heard of the Fair Work Commission's June 1 finding while 71% had not. Of electors surveyed 28% had heard of the Fair Work Commission's finding while 72% had not.

Q2. All respondents were then asked "Should the Federal Government establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates?"**Analysis by Voting Preference** – "Should the Federal Government establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates?"

| | Total | Q1: Aware | Q1: Unaware | Electors | L-NP | ALP | Greens | Other | Can't say | Non Electors |
|--------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Yes | 77 | 66 | 82 | 78 | 85 | 69 | 71 | 85 | 88 | 75 |
| No | 23 | 34 | 18 | 22 | 15 | 31 | 29 | 15 | 12 | 25 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Analysis by Age & Gender - "Should the Federal Government establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates?"

| | Total | Gender | | Age | | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | Men | Women | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Yes | 77 | 77 | 77 | 77 | 77 | 77 | 77 | 78 |
| No | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 22 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Analysis by State & City/Country - "Should the Federal Government establish a National Crimes Authority to investigate unions and large employers paying workers below award rates?"

| | Total | State | | | | | | Region | |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | NSW | VIC | QLD | WA | SA | TAS | City | Country |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Yes | 77 | 73 | 79 | 83 | 75 | 77 | 78 | 75 | 81 |
| No | 23 | 27 | 21 | 17 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 25 | 19 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

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](#)

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 |