Great Barrier Reef

National Poll 2015





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Date:	November 2015
Client	350.org Australia
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Notes:	



Essential Media Communications is a member of the Association of Market and Social Research Organisations.



Our researchers are members of the Australian Market and Social Research Society

The survey

The survey was constructed by Essential Research.

Essential Research commissioned Your Source to conduct the fieldwork and data processing.

The sample was selected randomly from the Your Source online panel. Quotas were placed on gender, age and location.

The survey was in the field from 20 October to 5 November 2015.

The total sample achieved was 1,507 interviews. Quotas were set for Brisbane and Queensland coastal region in order to obtain reliable figures for these segments. Achieved samples were -

Brisbane	506
Queensland northern coastal	500
Rest of Australia	501

The completed data was weighted to ABS Census for the various regions according to age and gender.

The sample and results are comparable with similar surveys conducted in 2014 and 2013.

SPSS software and Microsoft Excel were used to analyse and present the data.

Survey reliability

Properly constructed sample surveys can provide results that are described as statistically reliable. The level of statistical reliability is dependent upon the sample size and (except where it is extremely small) the size of the population has no practical effect.

A survey that has 1000 respondents will provide results that are – at the 95% confidence level – subject to a sampling variation of between 2% and 3% at the total response level. Sub-samples, because of their smaller size, will exhibit larger sampling variances.

Overall the confidence level was set as 95%. In this report where variation in sub-samples is statistically significant a comment has been made.

For the purposes of simplicity we have rounded percentages to the nearest whole number. This may result in some percentage totals being 99% or 101%.

The following table shows the sampling variances at the 95% confidence level for a range of sample sizes and response levels.

Sample Size	Variation where the answer is near the percentage of					
	10% or 90%	20% or 80%	30% or70%	40% or 60%	50%	
100	6%	8%	9%	9%	10%	
200	4%	5%	6%	7%	7%	
300	3%	5%	5%	6%	6%	
400	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%	
500	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
600	2%	3%	4%	4%	4%	
700	2%	3%	3%	4%	4%	
800	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	
900	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	
1000	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	
1500	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	

Coal mining

Q. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Total agree	Total disagree	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Australia needs to restrict coal mining because of the impact that it is having on our natural environment and biodiversity.	68%	13%	30%	38%	10%	3%	20%
Australia needs to restrict coal mining because of the impact that it is having on farmland and water.	67%	12%	29%	38%	9%	3%	20%
Australia needs to phase out coal mining because it drives global warming which is threatening the survival of the Great Barrier Reef.	63%	16%	30%	33%	12%	4%	21%
The coal industry harms people's health, damages the environment, and employs fewer and fewer people. As the industry enters its decline, the negative impacts of the industry now outweigh the benefits.	65%	12%	29%	36%	9%	3%	24%
Mining operations disturb large areas of land and contaminate groundwater, rivers and lakes, and land. Mining companies should be required by law commit to pay bonds upfront to fully cover the costs of rehabilitating former mines sites rather than expecting Australian taxpayers to cover the bill.	78%	7%	43%	35%	5%	2%	15%

	Qld northern coastal		Brisbane		Other Australia	
	Total agree	Total disagree	Total agree	Total disagree	Total agree	Total disagree
Australia needs to restrict coal mining because of the impact that it is having on our natural environment and biodiversity.	60%	18%	69%	16%	68%	11%
Australia needs to restrict coal mining because of the impact that it is having on farmland and water.	58%	19%	67%	17%	68%	11%
Australia needs to phase out coal mining because it drives global warming which is threatening the survival of the Great Barrier Reef.	54%	24%	63%	19%	63%	15%
The coal industry harms people's health, damages the environment, and employs fewer and fewer people. As the industry enters its decline, the negative impacts of the industry now outweigh the benefits.	54%	21%	66%	15%	65%	10%
Mining operations disturb large areas of land and contaminate groundwater, rivers and lakes, and land. Mining companies should be required by law commit to pay bonds upfront to fully cover the costs of rehabilitating former mines sites rather than expecting Australian taxpayers to cover the bill.	79%	6%	82%	4%	77%	7%