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Thursday, 12 October 2017

New Zealanders say North Korea will use a nuclear weapon

A special Roy Morgan SMS Survey taken in late September, after the New Zealand Election, shows a majority (58%) of New Zealanders saying it is either 'Very likely' (19%) or 'Fairly likely' (39%) that North Korea will use a nuclear weapon compared to 42% that say it is 'Fairly unlikely' (31%) or 'Very unlikely' (11%).

These figures are a reverse of the [Australian result surveyed in mid-September](#) which showed 51% of Australians believe it is 'Fairly/Very unlikely' North Korea will use a nuclear weapon compared to 49% of Australians that say it is 'Fairly/Very likely'.

The majority of New Zealanders (78%) want the opposing sides in the North Korean stand-off to reach a peaceful diplomatic solution, [a similar result to Australia](#), and only 22% believe a peaceful diplomatic solution isn't working and a military one is needed.

This special Roy Morgan SMS Survey was conducted in late September with a cross-section of 1,888 New Zealanders aged 18+.

Questions: "In your opinion how likely is it that North Korea will use a nuclear weapon?" and respondents were then asked "Which of these two options would you support with regards to North Korea and their ongoing nuclear and missile tests. Continue to try to reach a peaceful diplomatic solution or a peaceful diplomatic solution is not working; a military one is needed?"

Analysis by Voting Preference: Q1 – North Korea using a nuclear weapon

Analysing the results by voting preference shows a majority of supporters of the major parties National, Labour and New Zealand First think it likely North Korea will use a nuclear weapon whereas a slight majority of Greens supporters think it is unlikely.

	Total NZ	Electors	Labour	National	NZ First	Greens	Other	Can't say	Non Electors	Total Australia
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	19	19	28	15	16	15	12	30	15	16
Fairly likely	39	38	31	45	44	31	35	46	30	33
Total likely	58	57	59	60	60	46	47	76	45	49
Fairly unlikely	31	33	32	31	22	41	36	21	36	33
Very unlikely	11	10	9	9	18	13	17	3	19	18
Total unlikely	42	43	41	40	40	54	53	24	55	51
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q2 – Peaceful diplomatic solution or Military solution

As expected large majorities of supporters of all parties are in favour of a peaceful diplomatic solution rather than a military solution.

	Total NZ	Electors	Labour	National	NZ First	Greens	Other	Can't say	Non electors	Total Australia
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Peaceful	78	78	80	75	74	89	63	85	79	81
Military	22	22	20	25	26	11	37	15	21	19
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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Analysis by Gender & Age: Q1 – North Korea using a nuclear weapon

Analysis by gender shows women and men differ on the tense situation with women much more concerned than men when considering the likelihood that North Korea might use nuclear weapons than not whilst it is those aged 35-64 who are most certain North Korea will use a nuclear weapon with older and younger New Zealanders more evenly split on the question.

	Total NZ	Gender		Age					Total Australia
		Men	Women	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	19	12	25	14	14	23	24	16	16
Fairly likely	39	30	43	38	42	40	38	37	33
Total likely	58	42	68	52	56	63	62	53	49
Fairly unlikely	31	38	29	38	33	28	28	33	33
Very unlikely	11	20	3	10	11	9	10	14	18
Total unlikely	42	58	32	48	44	37	38	47	51
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q2 – Peaceful diplomatic solution or Military solution

Large majorities of both genders and all ages are in favour of a peaceful diplomatic solution rather than a military solution although it is the youngest New Zealanders, those aged 18-24, who are most pre-disposed to a potential military solution (32%).

	Total NZ	Gender		Age					Total Australia
		Men	Women	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Peaceful	78	74	81	68	82	78	76	82	81
Military	22	26	19	32	18	22	24	18	19
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Analysis by Regions: Q1 – North Korea using a nuclear weapon

Analysing the results by region it is outside New Zealand's two largest cities that respondents are most convinced North Korea will use a nuclear weapon – highest on the North Island outside Auckland and Wellington, and highest outside Canterbury on the South Island.

Respondents in Auckland and Wellington are split almost right down the middle on the question.

	Total NZ	Region					Total Australia
		Auckland	Wellington	Other North Island	Canterbury	Other South Island	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	19	17	15	20	23	20	16
Fairly likely	39	35	35	40	34	39	33
Total likely	58	52	50	60	57	59	49
Fairly unlikely	31	37	37	29	31	32	33
Very unlikely	11	11	13	11	12	9	18
Total unlikely	42	48	50	40	43	41	51
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Q2 – Peaceful diplomatic solution or Military solution

At least three quarters of respondents in each region believe a peaceful diplomatic solution must be pursued compared to less than a quarter of respondents that would prefer a military solution.

	Region						
	Total NZ	Auckland	Wellington	Other North Island	Canterbury	Other South Island	Total Australia
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Peaceful	78	78	87	76	75	77	81
Military	22	22	13	24	25	23	19
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

“A majority of New Zealanders (58%) say North Korea is either ‘Very likely’ (19%) or ‘Fairly likely’ (39%) to use a nuclear weapon – a higher result than for their counterparts across the Tasman in Australia – a total of 49% saying it is either ‘Fairly or Very likely’.

“In addition, over three-quarters of New Zealanders (78%) are in favour of a peaceful diplomatic solution to the stand-off rather than a military solution despite the heated rhetoric being traded primarily by the North Korean government and US President Donald J. Trump. There are concerns that North Korea is set to conduct further missile tests next week (October 18) to mark the start of China’s 19th Communist Party Congress.

“As New Zealand First gets set to choose who will form New Zealand’s next Government we can report that supporters of the major parties National and Labour are in close agreement on the questions with 60% of National supporters and 59% of Labour supporters saying it is likely North Korea will use a nuclear weapon and 75% of National supporters and 80% of Labour supporters wanting a peaceful diplomatic solution to the stand-off rather than a military solution.”

Finding No. 7346 – This special snap SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a representative cross-section of 951 New Zealanders on September 27/28, 2017. They were asked “In your opinion how likely is it that North Korea will use a nuclear weapon?” and respondents were then asked “Which of these two options would you support with regards to North Korea and their ongoing nuclear and missile tests. Continue to try to reach a peaceful diplomatic solution or a peaceful diplomatic solution is not working; a military one is needed?”

Roy Morgan SMS Polling was extremely accurate at both the last two Federal Elections. 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

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