

Thursday, 31 March 2022

## Treasurer Josh Frydenberg increases lead as preferred Coalition Leader over Scott Morrison by 10% points in a month

**Now 46% of Australians (up 7.5% points since mid-February) prefer Treasurer Josh Frydenberg to lead the L-NP Government, clearly ahead of current Prime Minister Scott Morrison 28.5% (down 2.5% points) and Defence Minister Peter Dutton 14% (up 1.5% points) while 1% (down 1% point) named someone else and 10.5% (down 5.5% points) had no preference.**

Importantly, among L-NP supporters it is now a virtual tie between the two with Frydenberg on 37.5% (up 5% points) just behind Morrison on 38% (down 2% points) according to a special Roy Morgan SMS Poll of 1,067 Australian electors conducted over the last two days this week, March 30-31, 2022.

An analysis by gender shows Frydenberg leads Morrison amongst men by 15.5% points (Frydenberg: 44.5% cf. Morrison: 29%) well up from the narrow 3% points lead held by Frydenberg in February, and by 19.5% points amongst women (Frydenberg 47.5% cf. Morrison 28%) – up from a 12% points lead.

An analysis by age shows Frydenberg with the advantage amongst younger age groups while the two are now tied amongst those aged 65+ years old:

- 18-34 year olds: Frydenberg 53.5% (up 7% points) cf. Morrison 23.5% (up 1.5% points);
- 35-49 year olds: Frydenberg 45.5% (up 9% points) cf. Morrison 24.5% (down 5.5% points);
- 50-64 year olds: Frydenberg 41.5% (up 4.5% points) cf. Morrison 28% (down 1.5% points);
- 65+ year olds: Morrison 40.5% (down 5.5% points) cf. Frydenberg 40.5% (up 7.5% points).

On a State-by-State basis Frydenberg now leads as preferred Coalition Leader in all six States. In February Morrison had held a lead in Queensland.

- NSW: Frydenberg 39% (up 1% point) cf. Morrison 36% (up 0.5% points);
- Victoria: Frydenberg 52% (up 8.5% points) cf. Morrison 23% (down 3% points);
- Queensland: Frydenberg 40.5% (up 8.5% points) cf. Morrison 28.5% (down 9% points);
- WA: Frydenberg 51% (up 12.5% points) cf. Morrison 25% (down 0.5% points);
- SA: Frydenberg 49% (up 12% points) cf. Morrison 28.5% (down 2% points);
- Tasmania: Frydenberg 52% (up 8.5% points) cf. Morrison 23% (down 10% points).

A look at who supporters of different parties prefer as Leader shows L-NP supporters unable to decisively split Treasurer Josh Frydenberg and Prime Minister Scott Morrison but Frydenberg has a clear advantage amongst supporters of the ALP, Greens and Independents/Others.

- L-NP supporters: Morrison 38% (down 1.5% points) cf. Frydenberg 37.5% (up 5% points);
- ALP supporters: Frydenberg 50% (up 9.5% points) cf. Morrison 24% (down 3.5% points);
- Greens supporters: Frydenberg 58% (up 7% points) cf. Morrison 18.5% (down 3% points);
- Independents/Others supporters: Frydenberg 46.5% (up 15.5% points) cf. Morrison 25% (down 2% points).

Electors were asked: *“If you were a Liberal or National Party voter and helping to choose the Coalition Leader for the next Federal Election, who would you prefer: Scott Morrison, Peter Dutton or Josh Frydenberg?”*

**Michele Levine, CEO Roy Morgan, says:**

*“Treasurer Josh Frydenberg has significantly increased his lead as the favoured leader of the Coalition compared to mid-February, with 46% (up 7.5% points) of Australians now saying they would choose Frydenberg to lead the party into the next Federal Election (due to be called any day now) compared to only 28.5% (down 2.5% points) that favour Prime Minister Scott Morrison and only 14% (up 1.5% points) that favour Defence Minister Peter Dutton.*

*“Importantly for the Treasurer he is now almost level with the Prime Minister when it comes to L-NP supporters with those most likely to vote to re-elect the Government now virtually split between Scott Morrison (38%) and Josh Frydenberg (37.5%) with both well ahead of Peter Dutton (13.5%).*

*“Another key voting demographic, the over 65s who tend to vote strongly for the L-NP, are also now evenly split between Frydenberg (40.5%) and Morrison (40.5%) as to who their preferred Coalition Leader should be at the Federal Election.*

*“Apart from those two demographics Frydenberg is easily preferred amongst all other demographics leading by 19.5% points amongst women, 15.5% points amongst men, 20.5% points amongst people who live in the Capital Cities and 10.5% points among those living in Country Areas.*

*“Treasurer Josh Frydenberg is preferred by supporters of the ALP, Greens, Independents/Others as well as all age groups under 65 and preferred in all States. The closest ‘battle’ between the two is in Morrison’s home State of NSW – Frydenberg on 39% only leads Morrison on 36% by 3% points. In contrast, in Frydenberg’s home State of Victoria he holds a large 29% points advantage: Frydenberg 52% cf. Morrison 23%.*

*“The results of this special Roy Morgan SMS Poll show that if the L-NP Government wants to maximise its chances of re-election this year it must make a late change and elevate Treasurer Josh Frydenberg to the top job. Such a move is not unprecedented, as former long-serving Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke only became the leader of the Labour Party on the day the 1983 Federal Election was called by then Prime Minister Malcom Fraser.*

*“The latest [Roy Morgan Poll on Federal voting intention shows the ALP 55.5% holds a large two-party preferred lead over the L-NP 44.5% with the Federal Election due to be called any day now.](#)”*

This special Roy Morgan SMS Poll was conducted on March 30-31, 2022, with an Australia-wide cross section of 1,067 electors.

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## Preferred Coalition Leader (Scott Morrison vs. Peter Dutton vs. Josh Frydenberg)

Electors were asked: "If you were a Liberal or National Party voter and helping to choose the Coalition Leader for the next Federal Election, who would you prefer: Scott Morrison, Peter Dutton or Josh Frydenberg?"

### Analysis by Federal Voting intention

	Feb 14-15, 2022	Mar 30-31, 2022	L-NP	ALP	Greens	Ind/ Other	Can't say
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Frydenberg	38.5	46	37.5	50	58	46.5	48.5
Morrison	31	28.5	38	24	18.5	25	24
Dutton	12.5	14	13.5	15.5	7.5	19	14.5
Someone else	2	1	1	1	1	0	0
None/ Can't say	16	10.5	10	9.5	15	9.5	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

### Analysis by Gender & Age

	Interviewing Dates		Gender		Age			
	Feb 14-15, 2022	Mar 30-31, 2022	Men	Women	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Frydenberg	38.5	46	44.5	47.5	53.5	45.5	41.5	40.5
Morrison	31	28.5	29	28	23.5	24.5	28	40.5
Dutton	12.5	14	16.5	11.5	13.5	17	14.5	9.5
Someone else	2	1	1.5	0.5	0	2.5	1	1.5
None/ Can't say	16	10.5	8.5	12.5	9.5	10.5	15	8
<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>

### Analysis by State & Region

	Interviewing Dates		Region		State					
	Feb 14-15, 2022	Mar 30-31, 2022	Capital Cities	Country Areas	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Frydenberg	38.5	46	49	39.5	39	52	40.5	51	49	52
Morrison	31	28.5	28.5	29	36	23	28.5	25	28.5	23
Dutton	12.5	14	12	18	15.5	12.5	20.5	7	8.5	15.5
Someone else	2	1	0.5	2	0.5	0.5	2	2.5	1.5	1.5
None/ Can't say	16	10.5	10	11.5	9	12	8.5	14.5	12.5	8
<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>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

#Sample sizes with fewer than 50 respondents should be treated with caution.

The Morgan Poll is conducted by the **ONLY** Australian and New Zealand member of the Gallup International Association.

No other public opinion poll taken in Australia has this qualification.

## Preferred Coalition Leader (Scott Morrison vs. Peter Dutton vs. Josh Frydenberg)

Electors were asked: "If you were a Liberal or National Party voter and helping to choose the Coalition Leader for the next Federal Election, who would you prefer: Scott Morrison, Peter Dutton or Josh Frydenberg?"

### Analysis by Federal Voting intention (Someone else and None/Can't say removed)

	Feb 14-15, 2022	Mar 30-31, 2022	L-NP	ALP	Greens	Ind/ Other#	Can't say#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Frydenberg	47	52	42	56	69	51	56
Morrison	38	32	43	27	22	28	27
Dutton	15	16	15	17	9	21	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

### Analysis by Gender & Age (Someone else and None/Can't say removed)

	Interviewing Dates		Gender		Age			
	Feb 14-15, 2022	Mar 30-31, 2022	Men	Women	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Frydenberg	47	52	50	55	59	52	50	45
Morrison	38	32	32	32	26	28	33	45
Dutton	15	16	18	13	15	20	17	10
<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>

### Analysis by State & Region (Someone else and None/Can't say removed)

	Interviewing Dates		Region		State					
	Feb 14-15, 2022	Mar 30-31, 2022	Capital Cities	Country Areas	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Frydenberg	47	52	55	46	43	60	45	62	57	58
Morrison	38	32	32	33	40	26	32	30	33	25
Dutton	15	16	13	21	17	14	23	8	10	17
<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>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

#Sample sizes with fewer than 50 respondents should be treated with caution.

### 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	±4.3	±3.8	±2.6	±1.9
1,000	±3.2	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4

## Morgan Poll Accuracy — Recent Elections State & Federal (2007-16)

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](#)