

ANU Poll March 2009 Frequencies

All things considered, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the country is heading?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very satisfied	187	15.6	15.6
Satisfied	653	54.4	70.0
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	63	5.3	75.3
Dissatisfied	196	16.3	91.6
Very dissatisfied	89	7.4	99.0
(Don't know/Not sure)	11	1.0	99.9
(Refused)	1	.1	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

What do you think is the most important problem facing Australia today?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Economy/jobs	632	52.6	52.6
Industrial relations	1	.1	52.7
Interest rates	1	.1	52.8
Housing affordability	3	.2	53.1
Health care	31	2.6	55.7
Education	20	1.7	57.4
Defence/national security	2	.2	57.6
Terrorism	9	.7	58.3
Iraq war	3	.3	58.6
Afghan war	8	.6	59.2
Environment/global warming	144	12.0	71.2
Water management	28	2.4	73.6
Immigration	72	6.0	79.6
Indigenous affairs	7	.6	80.1
Taxation	5	.4	80.5
Social services (including aged care, the disabled, etc)	7	.6	81.1
Law and order/crime/justice system	30	2.5	83.6
Poverty/social exclusion/inequality	12	1.0	84.6
Infrastructure/planning/innovation	10	.8	85.5
Alcohol and drug use	8	.7	86.1
Better government	38	3.2	89.3
Young people's behaviour/attitudes	17	1.4	90.7
Foreign influence/Australia's position in world	7	.6	91.4
Values/morals/respect for others	26	2.2	93.5
Family/community/societal breakdown	17	1.4	94.9
Increasing/ageing population	2	.2	95.1
Other	17	1.4	96.5
(Don't know/Can't Say)	34	2.8	99.3
(None/no other)	4	.4	99.7
(Refused)	4	.3	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

And what do you think is the second most important problem facing Australia today?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Economy/jobs	317	26.4	27.3
Industrial relations	8	.7	28.0
Interest rates	2	.2	28.2
Housing affordability	21	1.7	30.0
Health care	83	7.0	37.2
Education	49	4.1	41.5
Defence/national security	17	1.4	42.9
Terrorism	9	.8	43.7
Iraq war	7	.6	44.3
Afghan war	10	.9	45.1
Environment/global warming	151	12.6	58.2
Water management	43	3.6	61.9
Immigration	60	5.0	67.0
Indigenous affairs	10	.8	67.9
Taxation	1	.1	68.0
Social services (including aged care, the disabled, etc.)	13	1.1	69.1
Law and order/crime/justice system	47	3.9	73.2
Poverty/social exclusion/inequality	23	2.0	75.2
Infrastructure/planning/innovation	19	1.6	76.8
Alcohol and drug use	17	1.4	78.3
Better government	37	3.1	81.6
Young people's behaviour/attitudes	14	1.2	82.8
Foreign influence/Australia's position in world	7	.6	83.4
Values/morals/respect for others	16	1.3	84.8
Family/community/societal breakdown	11	.9	85.7
Increasing/ageing population	13	1.1	86.9
Other	28	2.4	89.3
(Don't know/Can't Say)	90	7.5	97.1
(None/no other)	30	2.5	99.7
(Refused)	3	.3	100.0
Total	1158	96.5	
System missing	42	3.5	
Total	1200	100	

Do you think that the government should spend more money or less money on defence?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Spend much more on defence	114	9.5	9.5
Spend more on defence	249	20.7	30.3
About right at present	296	24.7	54.9
Spend less on defence	292	24.4	79.3
Spend much less on defence	128	10.7	90.0
(Don't know/Not sure)	114	9.5	99.5
(Refused)	6	.5	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Compared to other government departments, do you think the defence department uses its funds more efficiently, less efficiently, or about the same?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Uses its funds more efficiently	127	10.6	10.6
Uses its funds less efficiently	242	20.2	30.8
About the same as other departments	470	39.1	69.9
(Don't know/Not sure)	361	30.1	100.0
(Refused)	0	.0	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Australia's defence is stronger now than it was 10 years ago.

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly agree	151	12.6	12.6
Agree	529	44.1	56.7
Neither agree nor disagree	64	5.3	62.0
Disagree	179	14.9	77.0
Strongly disagree	63	5.3	82.3
(Don't know/Not sure)	209	17.4	99.7
(Refused)	3	.3	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Australians should pay more taxes to improve Australia's defence forces

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly agree	33	2.7	2.7
Agree	153	12.8	15.5
Neither agree nor disagree	26	2.2	17.7
Disagree	545	45.4	63.1
Strongly disagree	419	34.9	98.0
(Don't know/Not sure)	24	2.0	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Australia would be able to defend itself successfully if it were ever attacked.

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly agree	125	10.4	10.4
Agree	387	32.2	42.6
Neither agree nor disagree	28	2.3	44.9
Disagree	318	26.5	71.5
Strongly disagree	263	21.9	93.4
(Don't know/Not sure)	70	5.8	99.2
(Refused)	9	.8	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How important do you consider this activity performed by Australia's defence forces - peacekeeping within our region?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very important	842	70.2	70.2
Fairly important	310	25.8	96.0
Not very important	24	2.0	98.0
Not at all important	9	.7	98.8
(Don't know/Not sure)	9	.7	99.5
(Refused)	6	.5	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How important do you consider this activity performed by Australia's defence forces - stopping illegal immigrants and drugs coming into Australia?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very important	859	71.6	71.6
Fairly important	212	17.6	89.2
Not very important	71	5.9	95.1
Not at all important	36	3.0	98.1
(Don't know/Not sure)	14	1.2	99.3
(Refused)	8	.7	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How important do you consider this activity performed by Australia's defence forces - defending Australia against a foreign aggressor?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very important	950	79.1	79.1
Fairly important	181	15.1	94.3
Not very important	41	3.4	97.7
Not at all important	18	1.5	99.2
(Don't know/Not sure)	5	.4	99.6
(Refused)	5	.4	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How important do you consider this activity performed by Australia's defence forces - assisting our allies against attack?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very important	472	39.4	39.4
Fairly important	588	49.0	88.3
Not very important	89	7.5	95.8
Not at all important	25	2.1	97.9
(Don't know/Not sure)	18	1.5	99.4
(Refused)	8	.6	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How important do you consider this activity performed by Australia's defence forces - participating in United Nations operations anywhere in the world?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very important	460	38.3	38.3
Fairly important	583	48.6	86.9
Not very important	101	8.5	95.3
Not at all important	39	3.3	98.6
(Don't know/Not sure)	15	1.3	99.8
(Refused)	2	.2	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How important do you consider this activity performed by Australia's defence forces - engaging in disaster relief in Australia?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very important	1029	85.8	85.8
Fairly important	148	12.3	98.1
Not very important	15	1.3	99.4
Not at all important	0	.0	99.4
(Don't know/Not sure)	3	.3	99.7
(Refused)	4	.3	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

If you had a son or daughter who was planning to enter the defence forces, would you support that decision, or would you suggest a different occupation?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Support joining the defence forces	817	68.0	68.0
Suggest a different occupation	348	29.0	97.0
(Don't know/Not sure)	31	2.6	99.6
(Refused)	5	.4	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Have you or a close relative ever served in the Australian defence forces in any capacity?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Respondent AND a close relative(s) served in defence forces	47	3.9	3.9
Respondent ONLY served in defence forces	46	3.8	7.7
Close relative(s) ONLY served in defence forces	497	41.4	49.1
No	609	50.7	99.9
(Don't know/Not sure)	2	.1	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Do you think the government is doing all it reasonably can do to prevent terrorist attacks in Australia, do you think it could do more, or do you think it has done too much?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Doing all it reasonably can do	592	49.3	49.3
Could do more	442	36.8	86.1
Done too much	92	7.7	93.8
(Don't know/Not sure)	70	5.9	99.7
(Refused)	4	.3	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How concerned are you about you or a family member being the victim of a future terrorist attack in Australia?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very concerned	181	15.0	15.0
Somewhat concerned	350	29.2	44.3
Not very concerned	426	35.5	79.8
Not at all concerned	239	19.9	99.7
(Don't know/Not sure)	2	.1	99.8
(Refused)	2	.2	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

And how concerned are you that there will be a major terrorist attack on Australian soil in the near future?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very concerned	251	21.0	21.0
Somewhat concerned	409	34.1	55.1
Not very concerned	386	32.2	87.3
Not at all concerned	137	11.4	98.7
(Don't know/Not sure)	14	1.2	99.8
(Refused)	2	.2	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: 'acts of terrorism in Australia will be part of life in the future'?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly agree	139	11.6	11.6
Agree	461	38.5	50.0
Neither agree nor disagree	50	4.2	54.2
Disagree	365	30.4	84.7
Strongly disagree	144	12.0	96.6
(Don't know/Not sure)	38	3.2	99.9
(Refused)	2	.1	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: 'freedom of speech should not extend to groups that are sympathetic to terrorists'?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly agree	365	30.4	30.4
Agree	232	19.3	49.7
Neither agree nor disagree	27	2.2	51.9
Disagree	329	27.4	79.4
Strongly disagree	196	16.3	95.7
(Don't know/Not sure)	47	4.0	99.6
(Refused)	4	.4	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: 'the police should be allowed to search, without a court order, the houses of people who might be sympathetic to terrorists'?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly agree	378	31.5	31.5
Agree	240	20.0	51.5
Neither agree nor disagree	24	2.0	53.4
Disagree	313	26.1	79.5
Strongly disagree	224	18.7	98.2
(Don't know/Not sure)	18	1.5	99.7
(Refused)	4	.3	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: 'Australia should provide military assistance for the war on terrorism'?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly agree	332	27.6	27.6
Agree	562	46.9	74.5
Neither agree nor disagree	35	2.9	77.4
Disagree	159	13.2	90.7
Strongly disagree	75	6.3	97.0
(Don't know/Not sure)	28	2.4	99.3
(Refused)	8	.7	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Do you approve or disapprove of Australia's military participation in the war in Afghanistan?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Strongly approve	153	12.7	12.7
Approve	480	40.0	52.7
Neither approve nor disapprove	46	3.9	56.6
Disapprove	254	21.2	77.8
Strongly disapprove	217	18.1	95.9
(Don't know/Not sure)	44	3.6	99.5
(Refused)	6	.5	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

Do you think the US and its allies are winning or not winning the war in Afghanistan?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Winning the war	202	16.8	16.8
Not winning the war	832	69.3	86.1
(Don't know/Not sure)	162	13.5	99.6
(Refused)	4	.4	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

How important do you think the Australian alliance with the US under the ANZUS treaty is for protecting Australia's security?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
Very important	671	55.9	55.9
Fairly important	403	33.6	89.5
Not very important	60	5.0	94.5
Not at all important	41	3.4	97.9
(Don't know/Not sure)	22	1.8	99.7
(Refused)	3	.3	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	

If Australia's security was threatened by some other country, how much trust do you feel Australia can have in the US to come to Australia's defence?

	Frequency	Per cent	Cumulative Per cent
A great deal of trust	356	29.6	29.6
A fair amount of trust	620	51.7	81.3
Not very much trust	169	14.1	95.4
No trust at all	41	3.4	98.8
(Don't know/Not sure)	14	1.1	99.9
(Refused)	1	.1	100.0
Total	1200	100.0	