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# **EMRS State Voting Intentions Poll**

August 2017

Prepared by



10<sup>th</sup> August 2017

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## EMRS State Voting Intentions August 2017

Polling was conducted from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of August 2017. 1,000 adult Tasmanian residents were interviewed and responses weighted to reflect the Tasmanian adult voting population. A sample of this size provides a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

They were asked the following question:

*If a Tasmanian State Election was held today, who would you vote for?*

**Table 1 – Percentage of Respondents Supporting or Leaning Towards a Party after Excluding Undecided Voters (Percentage of decided voters)\***

Party	% Support in August 2016 (n=886)	% Support in May 2017† (n=890)	% Support in August 2017 (n=911)	Change since May 2017 (% points)	Change since August 2016 (% points)
Liberal	41	39	37	-2	-4
Labor	31	34	34	=	+3
Greens	15	15	16	+1	+1
Independent	11	7	6	-1	-5
JLN	-	-	5	+5	+5
Others	2	2	1	-1	-1

\*Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. †The column percentages for May 2017 do not sum to 100 as the 3% nominating One Nation have not been included.

After excluding undecided voters, support for the Liberal State Government has decreased marginally by 2 points since the last poll was conducted in May 2017 to 37% currently.

Support for the Labor Party showed no change since May, remaining at 34% in the latest poll. Greens support also remained steady, increasing only slightly by 1 point to 16%.

Among the remaining decided voters, 6% stated they would vote for an independent candidate if a State election were to be held today, while support for the Jacqui Lambie Network (JLN) was measured for the first time in the August 2017 poll and stood at 5%.

**Table 2 – Percentage of Respondents Supporting and Leaning Towards a Party Including Undecided from August 2016 to August 2017 (Percentage of entire sample)\***

Party	Aug. 2016 (n=1,000)	Nov. 2016 (n=1,000)	Mar. 2017† (n=1,000)	May 2017† (n=1,000)	Aug. 2017 (n=1,000)	Change since May 2017 (% points)	Change since Aug. 2016 (% points)
Liberal	36	36	32	34	34	=	-2
Labor	27	26	27	30	31	+1	+4
Greens	14	16	17	14	15	+1	+1
Independent	10	10	9	6	6	=	-4
JLN	-	-	-	-	4	+4	+4
Others	1	2	1	2	1	-1	=
Undecided	12	10	9	12	9	-3	-3

\*Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. †The column percentages for March 2017 and May 2017 do not sum to 100 as the 5% and 2% respectively nominating One Nation in these polling rounds have not been included.

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## PREFERRED PREMIER

The 1,000 respondents were also asked:

*Who would you prefer to be the Premier of Tasmania: Will Hodgman or Rebecca White?*

**Table 3 – Preferred Premier of Tasmania from August 2016 to August 2017  
(Percentage of entire sample)\*†**

Preferred Premier	Aug. 2016 (n=1,000)	Nov. 2016 (n=1,000)	Mar. 2017 (n=1,000)	May 2017 (n=1,000)	Aug. 2017 (n=1,000)	Change since May 2017 (% points)	Change since Aug. 2016 (% points)
Will Hodgman	50	50	52	42	37	-5	-13
Rebecca White	n/a	n/a	n/a	39	48	+9	n/a
Bryan Green	25	22	20	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Unsure / Neither	25	28	29	18	15	-3	-10

\*Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

†This is the second EMRS State Voting Intentions Poll conducted since Bryan Green resigned as Labor leader on March 17<sup>th</sup> 2017.

The latest poll was the second to be conducted since the resignation of Bryan Green in March 2017 and the appointment of Rebecca White as the new Labor leader.

Respondents were asked to choose between Premier Will Hodgman and Rebecca White as to who was currently their preferred Premier of Tasmania.

For the first time since May 2009, Premier Will Hodgman received a lower level of support as preferred Premier than the Labor leader.

In the latest poll, there was again a decrease in those nominating Premier Hodgman as their preferred candidate, down 5 points from May 2017 to 37% currently. Support for Rebecca White as the preferred option stood higher at 48%, a significant increase of 9 points from 39% in May 2017.

The latest poll confirms that support for Rebecca White as preferred Premier is considerably stronger than that for her predecessor (up by 28 points from the 20% nominating Bryan Green in March 2017).

It also saw a further decrease in the proportion of respondents unwilling to nominate either of the two leaders, with 15% currently of the view that neither Premier Will Hodgman nor Rebecca White was their preferred choice as Premier of Tasmania (down 14 points from 29% in March 2017).