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Overwhelming majority of Tasmanians support stronger gun laws in wake of Bondi

Nearly 70 per cent of Tasmanians support tightening gun laws, and a joint Federal-State funded gun buy-back, according to an exclusive poll undertaken by Enterprise Marketing and Research Services (EMRS).

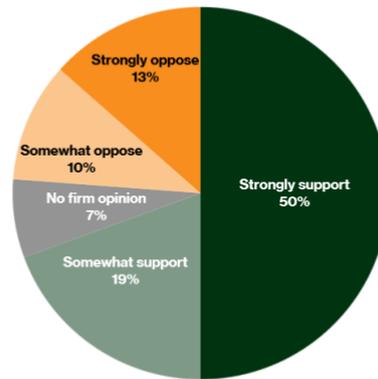
The results come with Federal Parliament today and tomorrow set to vote on establishing the gun-buy back.

The poll of 752 Tasmanians found that 50 per cent of Tasmanians “strongly support” tighter gun laws and the proposed buy-back in response to Bondi, with a further 19 per cent “somewhat” supportive, for a total of 69 per cent support.

A total of just 24 per cent oppose the changes (includes rounding), with 13 per cent “strongly” opposed and 10 per cent “somewhat” opposed. Seven per cent had no firm opinion either way.

Support for gun buy-back

Strongly support	50%
Somewhat support	19%
No firm opinion	7%
Somewhat oppose	10%
Strongly oppose	13%
TOTAL Support	69%
TOTAL Oppose	24%



Base: All respondents (n=752)

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Support for the changes was softer in the more rural electorates of Braddon and Lyons, but still reached 60 per cent.

	Bass	Braddon	Clark	Franklin	Lyons
Strongly support	53%	39%	58%	53%	43%
Somewhat support	14%	22%	21%	23%	15%
No firm opinion	6%	6%	7%	9%	5%
Somewhat oppose	10%	13%	8%	8%	14%
Strongly oppose	17%	19%	5%	8%	23%
Support	67%	61%	79%	76%	58%
Oppose	27%	32%	14%	16%	37%

“In many respects these results are unsurprising – instinctively, the majority of Tasmanians have a leaning towards tighter gun control, particularly after Port Arthur”, EMRS Director, Brad Stansfield, said.

“That being said, the results in Braddon and Lyons do show the existence of a relatively significant minority opposed to the changes in particular demographics.

“Both the State and Federal Governments would do well to reassure these people, in both action and words, that they aren’t being unfairly targeted by these changes.”

The survey was conducted from 14-18 January, using EMRS’ online panel. The margin of error for this survey is +/- 3.57 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level.

The question asked was: In response to the Bondi terrorist attack, the Federal Government has proposed further tightening gun laws. This will be accompanied by a gun buy-back with the costs to be shared 50-50 between the Federal and State Governments. To what extent do you support this proposal? [Strongly support/somewhat support/no firm view/support oppose/strongly oppose]

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