Survey of Voter Opinion

South Africa – October/November 2022
Methodology

• Nationally representative phone survey of South Africa.
• Only registered voters.
• N = 1000.
• Margin of Error: 4%.
• Fieldwork: 27 October – 10 November 2022.
• 15-minute questionnaire.
• Weighted to national statistics on gender, age, province and race.
2024 General Election
76.9% of respondents indicate that they will ‘definitely vote’ in Election 2024

Thinking ahead to the next general election, how certain are you that you will vote?

- Definitely: 76.9%
- Uncertain: 11.9%
- Fairly certain: 5.0%
- Probably not: 4.9%
- Definitely not: 1.3%
How those who will definitely vote would cast their ballots

Thinking ahead to the next general election in 2024 who will you cast your vote for?
Governance
Voters believe that the Western Cape is the best-governed province.

Which province do you believe is governed the best?

- Western Cape: 28.0%
- Gauteng: 15.9%
- KZN: 11.0%
- Eastern Cape: 5.9%
- Limpopo: 5.7%
- North West: 3.3%
- Free State: 2.9%
- Mpumalanga: 2.2%
- Northern Cape: 0.2%
- Don’t know: 19.9%
- Refused: 5.0%
More believe Cape Town is the best-governed city

Which metro do you believe is governed the best?

- City of Cape Town: 28.6%
- City of Johannesburg: 10.0%
- eThekwini: 9.7%
- Tshwane: 7.6%
- Nelson Mandela Bay Metro: 7.0%
- Ekurhuleni: 6.6%
- Mangaung: 3.9%
- Buffalo City: 1.8%
- Don’t know: 19.8%
- Refused: 5.0%
On governance, the 24% voting gap between the ANC and the DA narrows to just 5.9%
One in ten ANC voters believe the DA governs better than the ANC

Which party do you believe is most effective at governing? (ANC voters only)
Most respondents believe that government officials earn too much

Do you think that government officials earn too much, the right amount or too little?

- Too much: 42.3%
- Too little: 24.3%
- The right amount: 16.4%
- Don’t know: 15.7%
- Refused: 1.1%
- Other: 5.0%
Over three quarters of respondents want the private sector to help provide key services.

Do you think that the private sector should be allowed to participate in providing services like energy, port, rail?

- Yes: 54.2%
- I don't mind: 23.7%
- No: 14.7%
- Don't know: 7.4%
- Refused: 0.0%
Context & Issues
80% of respondents surveyed feel that South Africa is going in the wrong direction.

In general, are things in South Africa going in the right direction or in the wrong direction? And do you strongly feel that we're going in the (right / wrong) direction, or only somewhat?
66% of ANC voters feel South Africa is going in the wrong direction

In general, are things in South Africa going in the right direction or in the wrong direction? And do you strongly feel that we're going in the (right / wrong) direction, or only somewhat? (ANC voters only)
Unemployment/Jobs and Corruption are the cited as the biggest problems facing South Africa.
Over 50% blame the ANC government for the problems facing South Africa.

Who or what is most responsible for this problem?
Coalitions
Over three quarters of respondents would welcome a coalition government.
Respondents favour a coalition government excluding the ANC, or favour one between the ANC and DA.

Which coalition would you prefer to run the country?

- Coalition of parties excluding ANC: 22.8%
- ANC-DA: 21.1%
- ANC-EFF: 18.7%
- Don't know: 5.4%
- Refused: 10.6%
Democracy Sentiment
Most respondents believe multiparty democracy is the best form of government.

What is the most effective form of government?

- Multiparty democracy: 48.9%
- One Party State: 25.1%
- Monarchy: 15.2%
- Don't know: 10.3%
- Refused: 0.5%
Ukraine
74.3% believe Russia’s invasion of Ukraine must be condemned

How do you view Russia’s invasion of Ukraine?

- 74.3% Act of aggression that must be condemned
- 12.7% Acceptable use of force
- 9.7% Don't know
- 2.9% Refused
74% of ANC voters believe Russia’s invasion of Ukraine must be condemned

How do you view Russia’s invasion of Ukraine? (ANC voters)
80% believe South Africa should support a country invaded by its neighbour

If a sovereign, democratic country is invaded by its neighbour, which one of the following should South Africa do?

- Offer moral support: 32.6%
- Offer military support: 27.3%
- Offer diplomatic support: 22.6%
- Offer no support: 7.9%
- Don’t know: 8.5%
- Refused: 1.2%
Western countries are viewed far more favourably than Russia or China

If you were to leave South Africa, which country would you choose to go to?
Summary of key findings

- ANC support will fall from 57.5% in the 2019 election to 47.6% in 2024
- The DA’s support will rise from 20.8% in 2019 to 24% while the EFF will fall marginally to 10.7%
- The Western Cape and Cape Town are viewed as the best governed province and city
- On governance, the 24% voting gap between the ANC and the DA narrows to 5.9%
- Over three quarters of respondents want the private sector to help provide key services
- 80% of voters and 66% of ANC voters believe the country is going in the wrong direction
- Unemployment and corruption are cited as the country’s biggest problems
- Over 50% blame the ANC government for the problems facing South Africa
- Over three quarters of respondents would welcome a coalition government
- 74.3% - and 74% of ANC voters - believe Russia’s invasion of Ukraine must be condemned
- 80% believe South Africa should support a country invaded by its neighbour
- Western countries are viewed far more favourably than Russia or China
“The results of this survey clearly show that South Africans are ready for change. They place the blame for what they cite as their major problems - joblessness, corruption and load shedding – squarely on the shoulders of the ANC government of the last three decades.

“While more will vote for the ANC than any other party, it is revealing that the vast majority want to see a coalition governing South Africa. They see the country in crisis and want leaders to work together to fix it.

“Voters are also not buying the well-worn scapegoats for the country’s present problems – not many view apartheid and racism as factors in contemporary politics.

“And they don’t share the ANC’s nostalgia for the Soviet Union. It is striking how many believe Russia’s invasion of Ukraine should be strongly condemned.

“South Africa is on the cusp of change, but it is up to political leaders to listen to voters and start working on ways to fix the country. The parties that deliver real results on the ground will succeed.
Thank You

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