



REPORT

2015 Lowy Institute polling:  
Attitudes to Australia's aid  
program

May 2015

**LOWY INSTITUTE**  
FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICY

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- produce distinctive research and fresh policy options for Australia's international policy and to contribute to the wider international debate.
- promote discussion of Australia's role in the world by providing an accessible and high-quality forum for discussion of Australian international relations through debates, seminars, lectures, dialogues and conferences.

The views expressed in this paper are entirely the author's own and not those of the Lowy Institute for International Policy.

## POLL QUESTIONS AND RESULTS

*These results are drawn from a nationally representative telephone poll conducted by Newspoll on behalf of the Lowy Institute on 22-24 May 2015 (1,210 adults), together with The Lowy Institute Poll 2015, a nationally representative telephone survey of 1,200 Australian adults conducted between 20 February and 8 March 2015 by I-View. The error margin on each poll is approximately +/- 2.8%.*

## 1. 2015-16 BUDGET CUTS

Thinking now about the Federal Budget. In last week's Federal Budget, the Government reduced the amount of overseas aid to developing countries — from about five billion dollars a year, or one point two per cent of the budget, to around four billion dollars, or nought point nine percent of the budget. Are you personally in favour or against this reduction in the budget to Australia's overseas aid?

	Newspoll 22-24 May 2015
Strongly in favour	31%
Somewhat in favour	22%
<b>Total: in favour</b>	<b>53%</b>
Somewhat against	16%
Strongly against	19%
<b>Total: against</b>	<b>35%</b>
Neither/don't know/no view	13%

## 2. 2014-15 AID BUDGET

Thinking now about the aid the Australian government provides to developing countries. Currently the government provides approximately five billion dollars in aid to developing countries, or around 1.2 (one point two) per cent of the budget. Do you think this is too much, about the right amount, or not enough?

	Lowy Institute Poll Feb/Mar 2015
Too much	36%
About the right amount	41%
Not enough	21%
Don't know/no view	2%

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