

The Western Australian election will be held on 11 March 2017. A [ReachTEL poll](#), conducted Thursday night from a sample of 1790, has Labor leading by 52-48, a 1 point gain for Labor since mid-September.

Primary votes are 42.0% for the combined Liberals and Nationals (down 1.6), 36.7% for Labor (up 0.2) and 7.7% for the Greens (down 0.8). The changes in these primaries are from a poll that had an undecided component, and there may also be an undecided component in this poll.

Opposition leader Mark McGowan led Premier Colin Barnett 56-44 as better Premier, up from 54-46 in September. ReachTEL's forced choice better PM/Premier questions are far more favourable to opposition leaders than polls with an uncommitted option, such as Newspoll.

An additional question about the proposed [privatisation of Western Power](#) found that 56% were opposed and only 24% in favour. Voters are usually anti-privatisation, but that issue alone will not cost the conservatives the election.

The WA government has had two four year terms, so there is probably a "time for a change" factor. In addition, the Federal Coalition government is unpopular, and this will make life tough for all conservative state parties.

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Read more <http://theconversation.com/wa-reachtel-labor-leads-52-48-67927>