



Australian public has made up its mind on Alcopop tax

Four-out-of-five Australians believe the Federal Government should scrap its tax hike on Ready-to-Drink (RTD) alcohol products, according to a national survey conducted by Galaxy Research.

Undertaken last weekend, the study found 81% of respondents agreed the RTD tax trial should be abandoned in favour of a more comprehensive strategy to tackle binge-drinking among young Australians. While 58% of respondents “strongly agree” with the scrapping of the tax, only 7% of Australians “strongly disagree” with such a move.

The survey also found that more than three-quarters (77%) of the population believe the RTD tax increase is ineffective in addressing binge drinking in young people. More than half of those polled (53%) rate the RTD tax trial as “very ineffective”.

“This is the first poll to gauge the reaction of Australians to this supposed health measure,” said Mr Stephen Riden, Information and Research Manager for the Distilled Spirits Industry Council of Australia (DSICA).

“Only 3% of the respondents said they had did not know if the tax had been effective or not, and only 4% of respondents said they did not know whether the tax should be scrapped or not, so this survey shows that the public has made up its mind on this ill-conceived tax grab,” he said.

The Galaxy Research survey was carried out on 25 to 27 July. The statistically significant national sample of 1,042 respondents aged 18 years or over was weighted to reflect the latest ABS population statistics.

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