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## **Australian journalists finally waking up to Australia's real problem of massive under-employment by Gary Morgan, Michele Levine & Julian McCrann**

The past week has seen a procession of journalists finally mentioning Australia's largest problem that's never talked about – the massive level of under-employment throughout the Australian economy. Today [Jessica Irvine in The Age](#) asks the simple question – does working one hour a week sound like a good job? Well of course not, and Jessica's column highlights the problem of under-employment – working a few hours but wanting to work far more hours, or indeed, work full-time.

Jessica's column follows articles by her [Age](#) colleague [Ross Gittins](#), and columnists in The Australian including [Judith Sloan](#) and [Graham Richardson](#) in the past week who have all highlighted the rising level of part-time work at the expense of full-time work and alongside that comes an increasing level of under-employment – now at 8.4% (1.1 million Australians) in November according to the latest [Roy Morgan employment estimates](#).

The Turnbull Government's recent announcements on plans to crack-down on the 'cash economy' are also long overdue.

However the real challenge facing Federal, State and Local Governments is to ensure employment, or more specifically the eradication of unemployment and under employment, is top of the agenda. This means a 'line by line' analysis of policy and legislation of all kinds to remove everything that is a barrier to employment, or is contributing to unemployment and underemployment.

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## Morgan Poll Accuracy — Recent Elections State & Federal (2006 – 2016)

The Morgan Poll has proven to be consistently the most accurate regular poll in recent Australian Elections — including the 2013 Federal Election, 2010 Federal Election, 2007 Federal Election, 2010 Victorian State Election & 2012 Queensland State Election.

The **Morgan Poll** was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2013 Federal Election](#) for the two-party preferred vote (L-NP: 53.5% cf. ALP 46.5%) (sample 4,937 electors).

The **Morgan Poll** was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2007 Federal Election](#) for both primary vote and two-party preferred predictions (sample 2,115 electors).

The **Morgan Poll** accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Queensland Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 604 electors).

The **Morgan Poll** accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Victorian Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 956 electors). The **Morgan Poll** was also the most accurate on the primary vote of the major parties for the Victorian election.

**Note:** The [discussion on Possum Pollytics](#) regarding Morgan and Newspoll is well worth reading.

The following included comment says it all: “I find it interesting that for the only poll in the last five years for which there is any ‘real’ figure with which to compare, i.e. the polls immediately before the 2004 election, Morgan (45.5%) was closer to the actual Coalition Primary (46.7%) than Newspoll (45%) or Nielsen (49%), and Morgan (38.5%) was also closer to the ALP actual primary (37.6%) than Newspoll (39%), and only marginally further away than Nielsen (37%). Since we have no idea of how far away the ongoing polls are from ‘reality’ (whatever that means), surely we should just go with what we know, that in the most recent testable case, Morgan was better at forecasting the actual primary vote than Newspoll. On what possible basis should we decide that the Newspoll or Nielsen primary vote estimate is ‘better’ than Morgan’s.”

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