



Overview

Nearly all Australians say they believe more needs to be done to make domestic airline travel even more secure.

Moreover, when asked what they were personally prepared to do in the interests of greater security for domestic air travel, nearly all Australians are prepared to do at least one out of a list of seven possible actions.

98% of Australians believe that more action needs to be undertaken to make domestic air travel secure from the threat of terrorism.

Baggage screening is the area of greatest concern with 91% of Australians saying they believe there needs to be nationally consistent screening of all baggage at all Australian airports.

Other actions Australians believe airlines and airports need to undertake include:

- 88% support nationally consistent screening of all commercial goods carried as cargo
- 90% support of all passengers having to prove their identity before boarding
- 84% support nationally consistent passenger baggage tracking
- 62% support stricter criteria on hand luggage such as a ban on liquids
- 60% support greater restrictions on vehicles at airports and people who are not passengers

In terms of passengers taking personal action to make domestic airline travel safer, 98% said they would undertake one or more of the following.

- Arrive 30 minutes earlier for extra screening – 84%
- Provide a fingerprint or biometric to airlines – 71%
- Participate in a 'travellers identity' scheme – 68%

- Stop taking items such as liquids in hand luggage – 71%
- Have all bags electronically tagged for monitoring – 91%
- Arrive at the airport via a 'secure drop off point' – 58%
- Pay extra for tickets for increased security – 55%

The results were broadly similar across all states and across demographics including sex, education, income and work status.

Background

This stand alone question relating to additional domestic aviation security measures was asked in addition to the May Unisys Security Index questions.

1204 people aged 18+ were surveyed by Newspoll nationally between the 16th and 18th March 2007.

The question was as follows:

Thinking now about security on Australian domestic flights, that is, flights within Australia. Which of the following, if any, do you think should be considered to make domestic air travel even more secure?

1. Nationally consistent baggage screening at all Australian airports
2. Nationally consistent screening of commercial goods carried as cargo
3. All passengers having to prove their identity before boarding a flight
4. Nationally consistent passenger baggage tracking system
5. Stricter criteria on hand luggage such as banning liquids
6. Greater restrictions around airports for vehicle access and people who are not travelling
7. None / don't know

Which of the following would you personally be prepared to do to make domestic air travel more secure?

1. Arrive at the airport 30 minutes earlier for extra security screening
2. Provide a fingerprint, photograph, eye scan or similar to airports or airlines
3. Participate in a traveller's identity scheme using a smartcard ID
4. Stop taking specific items such as liquids in hand luggage
5. Have all luggage electronically tagged to enable it to be securely monitored
6. Arrive at the airport via a secure drop off point where you will be transferred to the terminal
7. Pay extra for your ticket to cover the cost of increased security
8. None / don't know

Contact Information

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