

Foreign

British, Kiwis top our list of favourites

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THEY may be sporting arch enemies but Australians still like the British and Kiwis more than Americans and other foreigners, a survey has found.

Americans were third in the Crosby-Textor Mood of the Nation poll but fell short on trust and worldliness.

Indonesians did not fare well - the close neighbour ranked second last of the 15 nations about which respondents were asked.

Britain scored highest overall among Australians with a country index rating of 79, just ahead of New Zealand on 78.3 and the U.S. 63.4.

Saudi Arabia ranked last with 18.1, with Indonesia 22.3.

New Zealanders topped four out of the seven categories - the most likeable (90 per cent), shared the same values (88 per cent) and honest and trustworthy (79 per cent).

Britain scored well on most questions with the country considered best at fighting corruption (65 per cent) and in tune with world events (84 per cent).

Australians believed the U.S. was an important trading partner (89 per cent) and thought Americans likeable (76 per cent) but not so honest and trustworthy (49 per cent). Only 50 per cent thought Americans were in tune with events outside their own country.

"People have mixed views about the U.S. but this poll shows why it's just not valid to simply describe Australians as either anti-American or pro-American," Crosby-Textor joint managing director Mark Textor said.

"It's a lot more sophisticated than that." The survey found Australians did not consider Indonesians reliable (7 per cent), trustworthy (11 per cent) or shared their values (7 per cent).

The poll was conducted among 501 people aged more than 18 from August 26-30.

HOW THEY RATE

Australians' views about countries and their people based on descriptions about reliability, values, trade, likeability, worldliness, honesty/trustworthiness and corruption:

* United Kingdom - 79.0

* New Zealand - 78.3

* United States - 63.4

* Japan - 49.3

- * Singapore - 45.1
- * Germany - 43.3
- * France - 38.7
- * China - 35.3
- * Fiji - 30.0
- * Taiwan - 28.1
- * India - 27.1
- * Israel - 26.0
- * Philippines - 22.1
- * Indonesia - 22.3
- * Saudi Arabia - 18.1