

Monday, 23 May 2016

National and Labour vote up in May but NZ First still holds the balance of power position despite vote falling

During May support for National rose 3% to 45.5%, now ahead of a potential Labour/Greens alliance 41.5% (up 1%). If a New Zealand Election were held now the latest NZ Roy Morgan Poll shows NZ First 9.5% (even though down 3% still NZ First's second highest level of support in twenty years) would be in a position to determine who would form the next New Zealand Government.

Support for the National partners fell slightly with the Maori Party, down 0.5% to 1.0%, Act NZ was 1% (down 0.5%) and United Future was 0% (unchanged).

Of the three Parliamentary Opposition parties - Labour's support was at 29.5% (up 3.5% to their highest support since November 2015), Greens 12% (down 2.5%) and NZ First 9.5% (down 3%). Of the parties outside Parliament the Conservative Party of NZ was 0.5% (down 0.5%), the Mana Party was 0% (unchanged) and support for Independent/ Other was 1% (up 0.5%).

The NZ Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has increased to 130pts (up 3pts) in May with 59% (up 1.5%) of NZ electors saying NZ is 'heading in the right direction' compared to 29% (down 1.5%) that say NZ is 'heading in the wrong direction'. New Zealand Government Confidence is much higher than in Australia – Australian Government Confidence is 102pts in May.

Gary Morgan, Executive Chairman, Roy Morgan Research, says:

"Today's Roy Morgan New Zealand Poll shows support for National rebounding to 45.5% (up 3% since April) now well ahead of traditional rivals Labour 29.5% (up 3.5%). Support has risen for both major parties at the expense of potential Labour allies the Greens 12% (down 2.5%) and New Zealand First 9.5% (down 3%)."

"Despite support for New Zealand First coming down from a 20-year high in April, support is still above what NZ First achieved at the 2014 New Zealand Election (8.7%) and means New Zealand First would still have the balance of power were a New Zealand Election held now."

"The strong performance for National over the past month follows Prime Minister John Key's meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing in late April to discuss broadening and strengthening the already tight trade relationship between New Zealand and China. The two countries already have a Free Trade Agreement which has proven a boon for New Zealand's dairy industry in recent years. The rise in support for National is also supported by the increase in the New Zealand Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating – now at 130 (up 3pts)."

Electors were asked: "If a New Zealand Election were held today which party would receive your party vote?" This latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll on voting intention was conducted by telephone – both landline and mobile telephone, with a NZ wide cross-section of 870 electors in May 2016. Of all electors surveyed 5.5% (down 1.5%) didn't name a party.

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Margin of Error

The margin of error to be allowed for in any estimate depends mainly on the number of interviews on which it is based. The following table gives indications of the likely range within which estimates would be 95% likely to fall, expressed as the number of percentage points above or below the actual estimate. The figures are approximate and for general guidance only, and assume a simple random sample. Allowance for design effects (such as stratification and weighting) should be made as appropriate.

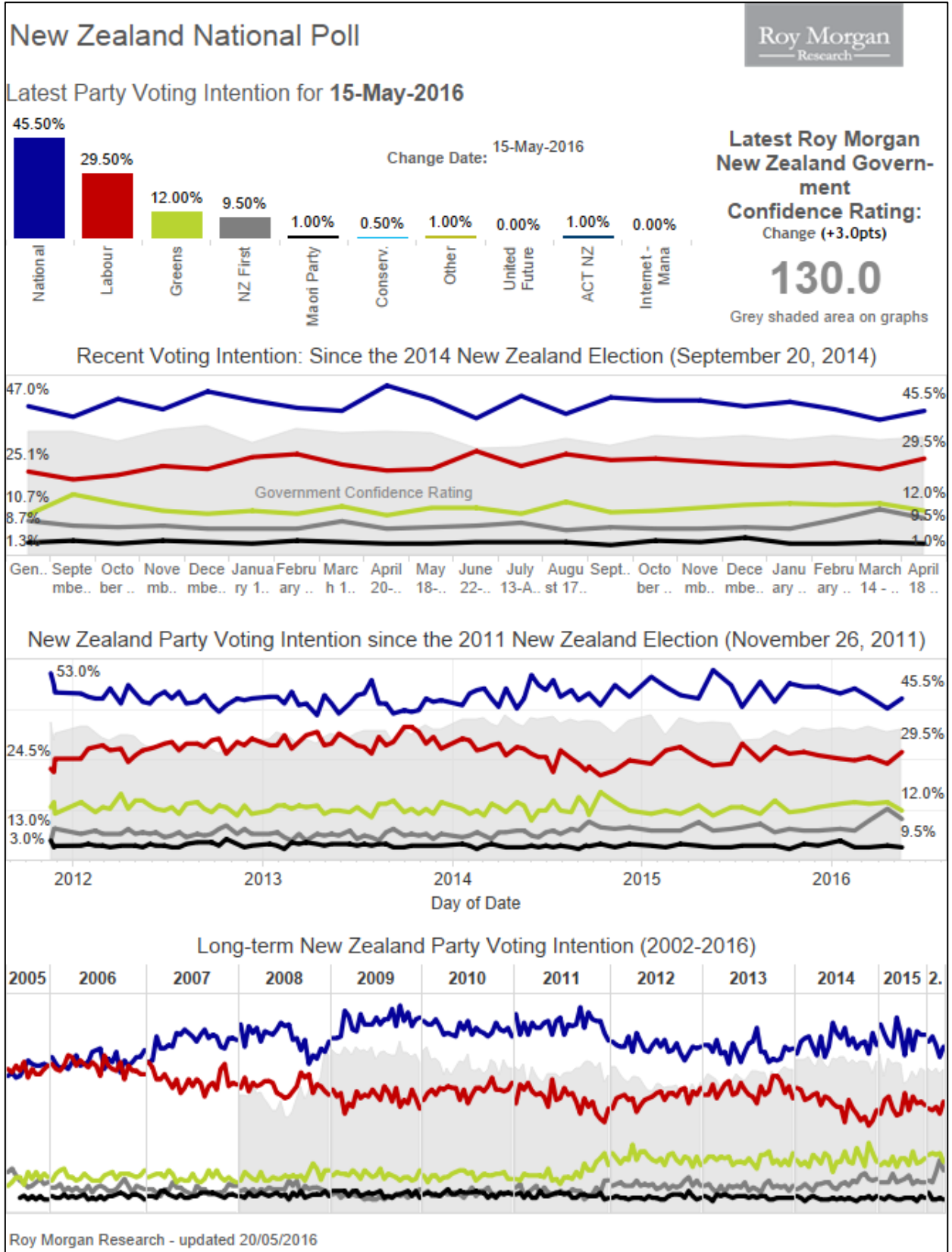
Sample Size	Percentage Estimate			
	40%-60%	25% or 75%	10% or 90%	5% or 95%
1,000	±3.2	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4
1,500	±2.6	±2.2	±1.5	±1.1

Roy Morgan New Zealand Interactive Voting Charts

These interactive charts allow a deeper look at voting patterns in New Zealand over varying timeframes and provide election observers with the ability to pinpoint key turning points for the political parties.

[View interactive New Zealand Election charts here.](#)

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Voting Intention Summary

The following table compares the latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Polls on Voting Intention with the result from the September 20, 2014 General Election:

PARTY VOTE ELECTIONS	National %	Labour %	Green Party* %	NZ First %	Maori Party* %	ACT NZ %	United Future* %	Conserva tives* %	Mana Party* %	Internet* %	Other %
October 12, 1996*	33.87	28.19	10.10	13.35	n/a	6.10	0.88	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.51
November 27, 1999	30.50	38.74	5.16	4.26	n/a	7.04	1.66	n/a	n/a	n/a	12.64
July 27, 2002	20.93	41.26	7.00	10.38	n/a	7.14	6.69	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.60
September 17, 2005	39.10	41.10	5.30	5.72	2.12	1.51	2.67	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.48
November 8, 2008	44.93	33.99	6.72	4.07	2.39	3.65	0.87	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.38
November 26, 2011	47.31	27.48	11.06	6.59	1.43	1.07	0.60	2.65	1.08	n/a	0.73
September 20, 2014	47.04	25.13	10.70	8.66	1.32	0.69	0.22	3.97	1.42	n/a	0.85
ROY MORGAN POLL											
Sep 29-Oct 12, 2014	43.5	22.5	17.5	7	2	0.5	0.5	5	1	^	0.5
Oct 27-Nov 9, 2014	49.5	24	14.5	6.5	1	0.5	^	2	0.5	^	1.5
Nov 24-Dec 7, 2014	46	27	12	7	2	1.5	^	2.5	1	^	1
January 5-18, 2015	52	26	11	6	1.5	1	^	2	^	^	0.5
February 2-15, 2015	49	30	12	6	1	^	^	1.5	^	^	0.5
March 2-15, 2015	46.5	31	11	6	2	1	^	1.5	^	^	1
April 6-19, 2015	45.5	27.5	13.5	8.5	1.5	1	^	1	^	^	1.5
May 4-17, 2015	54	25.5	10.5	6	1	1	^	1	^	^	1
June 8-21, 2015	49.5	26	13	6.5	1	1	^	1	^	^	2
June 29-July 12, 2015	43	32	13	7	1.5	0.5	^	1.5	^	^	1.5
August 3-16, 2015	50.5	27	11	8	1.5	0.5	^	^	0.5	^	1
Aug 31-Sep 13, 2015	44.5	31	15	5.5	1.5	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	^	^
Sep 28-Oct 11, 2015	50	29	11.5	6.5	0.5	0.5	^	0.5	0.5	^	1
Oct 26-Nov 8, 2015	49	29.5	12	6	2	0.5	^	0.5	0.5	^	^
Nov 23-Dec 6, 2015	49	28.5	13	6	1.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	^	^	0.5
Jan 4-17, 2016	47	27.5	14	6.5	3	0.5	^	1	^	^	0.5
Feb 1-14, 2016	48.5	27	14.5	6	1	0.5	^	1	0.5	^	1
Feb 29-Mar 13, 2016	46	28	14	9	1	1	^	0.5	0.5	^	^
April 4-17, 2016	42.5	26	14.5	12.5	1.5	1.5	^	1	^	^	0.5
May 2-15	45.5	29.5	12	9.5	1	1	^	0.5	^	^	1

^Result less than 0.5%. *The 1996 Election was the first New Zealand Election contested via MMP (Mixed Member Proportional). At the 1996 Election the Greens Party contested as part of the "Alliance" political grouping with four other political parties. *United Future was formed via a merger in 2000 between the United Party and the Future New Zealand Party, which separately contested the 1999 Election. *The Maori Party was launched in July 2004; The Mana Party was launched in July 2011. The Conservative Party was launched in August 2011. The Internet Party was launched in January 2014. The Internet Party & Mana Party announced an alliance in May 2014 that jointly contested the 2014 NZ Election. The combined result for the Internet-Mana Party Alliance is included in the Mana Party result (1.42%).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two-Party Preferred: National Party-led Government vs. Parliamentary Opposition Parties

The following table compares the latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Polls on Voting Intention with the result from the September 20, 2014 General Election:

	National Party-led Government*	Parliamentary Opposition Parties#
Election, November 8, 2008	51.84	48.16
Election, November 26, 2011	50.41	46.21
Election, September 20, 2014	49.27	44.49
<u>ROY MORGAN POLL</u>		
September 29 – October 12, 2014	46.5	47
October 27 – November 9, 2014	51	45
November 24 – December 7, 2014	49.5	46
January 5-18, 2015	54.5	43
February 2-15, 2015	50	48
March 2-15, 2015	49.5	48
April 6-19, 2015	48	49.5
May 4-7, 2015	56	42
June 8-21, 2015	51.5	45.5
June 29-July 12, 2015	45	52
August 3-16, 2015	52.5	46
Aug 31-Sep 13, 2015	47	51.5
Sep 28-Oct 11, 2015	51	47
Oct 26-Nov 8, 2015	51.5	47.5
Nov 23-Dec 6, 2015	51.5	47.5
Jan 4-17, 2016	50.5	48
Feb 1-14, 2016	50	47.5
Feb 29 – Mar 13, 2016	48	51
April 4 – 17, 2016	45.5	53
May 2-15, 2016	47.5	51

*National-led Government: National Party, Maori Party, ACT NZ, United Future; #Opposition Parties: Labour Party, Green Party, NZ First. Parties not represented: Conservative Party, Internet Party, Mana Party & Other not included as they are not represented in Parliament.

Finding No. 6816 taken from Computer Report No. 2424

The Roy Morgan Poll is conducted by the **ONLY** Australian and NZ member of the Gallup International Association.

No other public opinion poll taken in Australia or New Zealand has this qualification.

NEW ZEALAND: HEADING IN “RIGHT” OR “WRONG” DIRECTION?

Electors were asked: “Generally speaking, do you feel that things in New Zealand are heading in the right direction or would you say things are seriously heading in the wrong direction?”

NZ Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating: Interviewing Dates (National Party Govt.)

	Jan 6-19, <u>2014</u> %	Jan 20-Feb 2, <u>2014</u> %	Feb 3-16, <u>2014</u> %	Feb 17-Mar 2, <u>2014</u> %	Mar 3-16, <u>2014</u> %	Mar 17-30, <u>2014</u> %	Mar 31-Apr 13, <u>2014</u> %	Apr 21-May 4, <u>2014</u> %
Right direction	63	63.5	63.5	65	61	61	65	62
Wrong direction	23.5	24.5	23.5	23.5	25.5	28	22	26.5
Roy Morgan GCR#	139.5	139	140	141.5	135.5	133	143	135.5
Can't say	13.5	12	13	11.5	13.5	11	13	11.5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NZ Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating: Interviewing Dates (National Party Govt.)

	May 5-18, <u>2014</u> %	May 19-June 1, <u>2014</u> %	June 2-15, <u>2014</u> %	June 16-29, <u>2014</u> %	June 30-July 13, <u>2014</u> %	July 14-27, <u>2014</u> %	Aug 4-17, <u>2014</u> %
Right direction	60	64.5	63.5	65	65.5	60	63.5
Wrong direction	28	24	24	23.5	23	25	24.5
Roy Morgan GCR#	132	140.5	139.5	141.5	142.5	135	139
Can't say	12	11.5	12.5	11.5	11.5	15	12
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NZ Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating: Interviewing Dates (National Party Govt.)

	Aug 18-31, <u>2014</u> %	Sep 1-14, <u>2014</u> %	Sep 29-Oct 12, <u>2014</u> %	Oct 27-Nov 9, <u>2014</u> %	Nov 24-Dec 7, <u>2014</u> %	Jan 5-18, <u>2015</u> %	Feb 2-15, <u>2015</u> %
Right direction	61	62	61.5	56	62.5	67	55
Wrong direction	25	24	24.5	30	24.5	23	31
Roy Morgan GCR#	136	138	137	126	138	144	124
Can't say	14	14	14	14	13	10	14
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

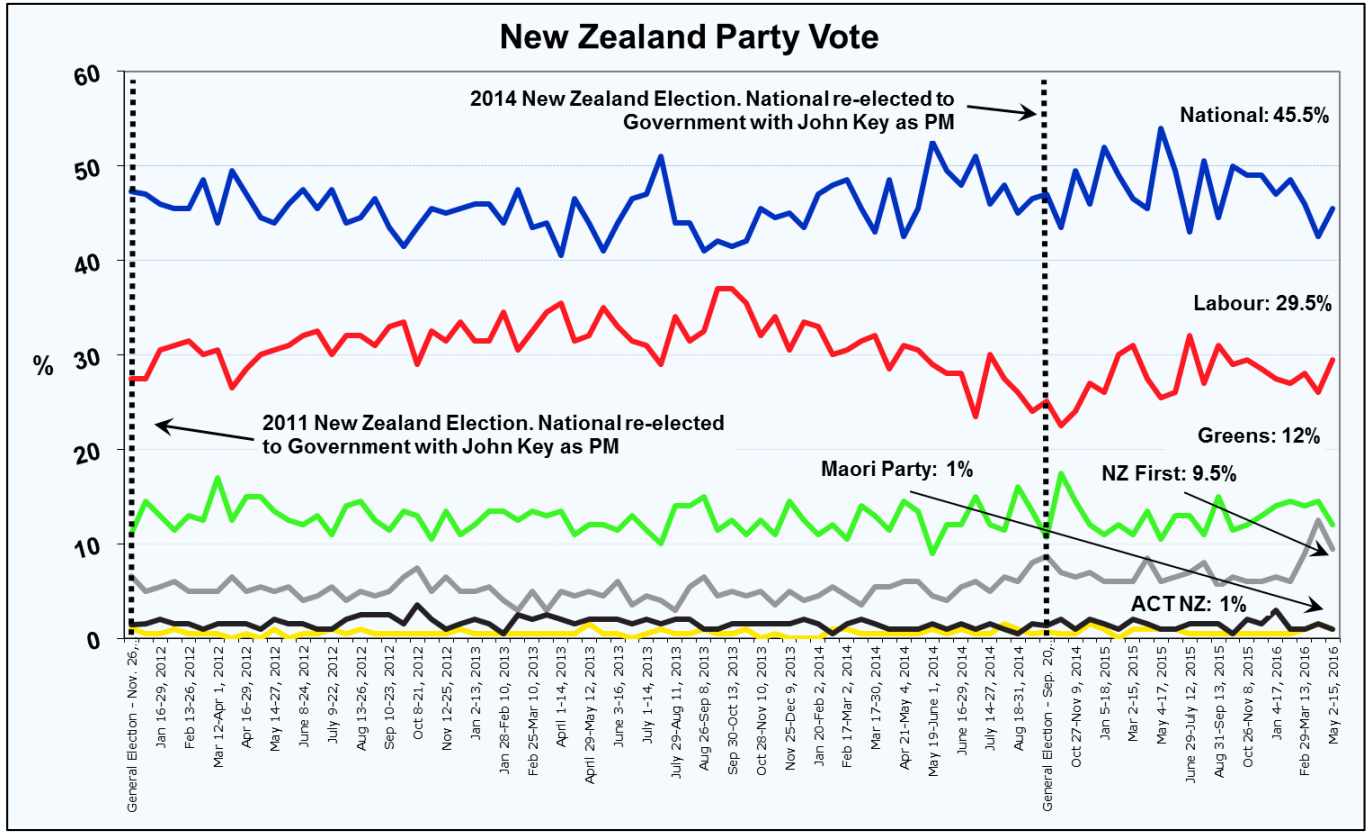
NZ Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating: Interviewing Dates (National Party Govt.)

	Mar 2-15, <u>2015</u> %	April 6-19, <u>2015</u> %	May 4-17, <u>2015</u> %	June 8-21, <u>2015</u> %	June 29-July 12, <u>2015</u> %	Aug 3-16, <u>2015</u> %	Aug 31-Sep 13, <u>2015</u> %	Sep 28-Oct 11, <u>2015</u> %
Right direction	64.5	62	63	62.5	51	54	58	53
Wrong direction	24	27	26.5	27	33	34	29.5	31
Roy Morgan GCR#	140.5	135	136.5	135.5	118	120	128.5	122
Can't say	11.5	11	11	10.5	16	12	12.5	16
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NZ Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating: Interviewing Dates (National Party Govt.)

	Oct 26- Nov 8, <u>2015</u> %	Nov 23-Dec 6, <u>2015</u> %	Jan 4-17, <u>2016</u> %	Feb 1-14, <u>2016</u> %	Feb 29-Mar 13, <u>2016</u> %	Apr 4-17, <u>2016</u> %	May 2-15 <u>2016</u> %
Right direction	60	59.5	59.5	56.5	61	57.5	59
Wrong direction	28.5	31	28	28.5	29	30.5	29
Roy Morgan GCR#	131.5	128.5	131.5	128	132	127	130
Can't say	11.5	9.5	12.5	15	10	12	12
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

New Zealand Party Vote



New Zealand Roy Morgan GCR

