

Measuring Public Opinion for over 75 Years

Monday, 29 May 2017

National Party remains 'dead-locked' with Labour/Greens alliance in May pre-Budget

New Zealand's governing National Party is unchanged with 43% support in May virtually level with the opposition Labour/Greens on 42.5% (unchanged) before this week's New Zealand Budget delivered a second straight annual surplus.

The tight result means the strong support for New Zealand First on 10% (down 0.5%) once gain has Winston Peters' party in a strong position to decide which parties will form New Zealand's next Government after September's election.

- The overall support for the governing National-led coalition was down slightly to 45% with National support unchanged at 43%, support for the Maori Party increasing 0.5% to 1.5% while Act NZ was down 1% to 0.5% and support for United Future was unchanged at 0%.
- Support for a potential Labour/Greens alliance was unchanged at 42.5% with support for Labour down 1% to 28.5%, while support for the Greens rose 1% to 14%. Support for New Zealand First was down 0.5% to 10%.
- Of the parties currently outside Parliament support for the Mana party rose 1% to 1%, while support for their allies the Internet party remained at 0%, support for the Conservative Party was down 0.5% to 0% and support for Independents/Others was up 0.5% to 1.5%.

New Zealand Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating up in May

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating has increased 4.5pts to 133.5pts in May with 60.5% of NZ electors (up 2.5%) saying NZ is 'heading in the right direction' cf. 27% of NZ electors (down 2%) that say New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction'.

Gary Morgan, Executive Chairman of Roy Morgan Research, says the large Budget surplus could be a turning point for National allowing the Government to substantially increase spending across several important areas of the New Zealand economy:

"Before yesterday's New Zealand Budget support for National on 43% and for a potential Labour/Greens alliance on 42.5% was virtually 'dead-locked' with NZ First on 10% support in a strong position to decide who will run New Zealand's next Government.

"However, the predicted \$1.62 billion surplus handed down by new Treasurer Steven Joyce is likely to be a significant 'game-changer' for the Government. The projected Budget surpluses over the next few years allows the National Government to campaign robustly on economic management and gives the Government the flexibility to target new spending where it's most needed.

"Joyce announced \$11 billion of new infrastructure spending over the next four years in addition to the \$21 billion already planned and the adjustments to tax thresholds and social spending will result in a \$6.5 billion increase to family incomes as New Zealand deals with record inward immigration which have fuelled a house price boom – particularly in Auckland."

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 856 electors between May 1-14, 2017. Of all electors surveyed 5.5% (down 1.5%) didn't name a party.

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

For further information:

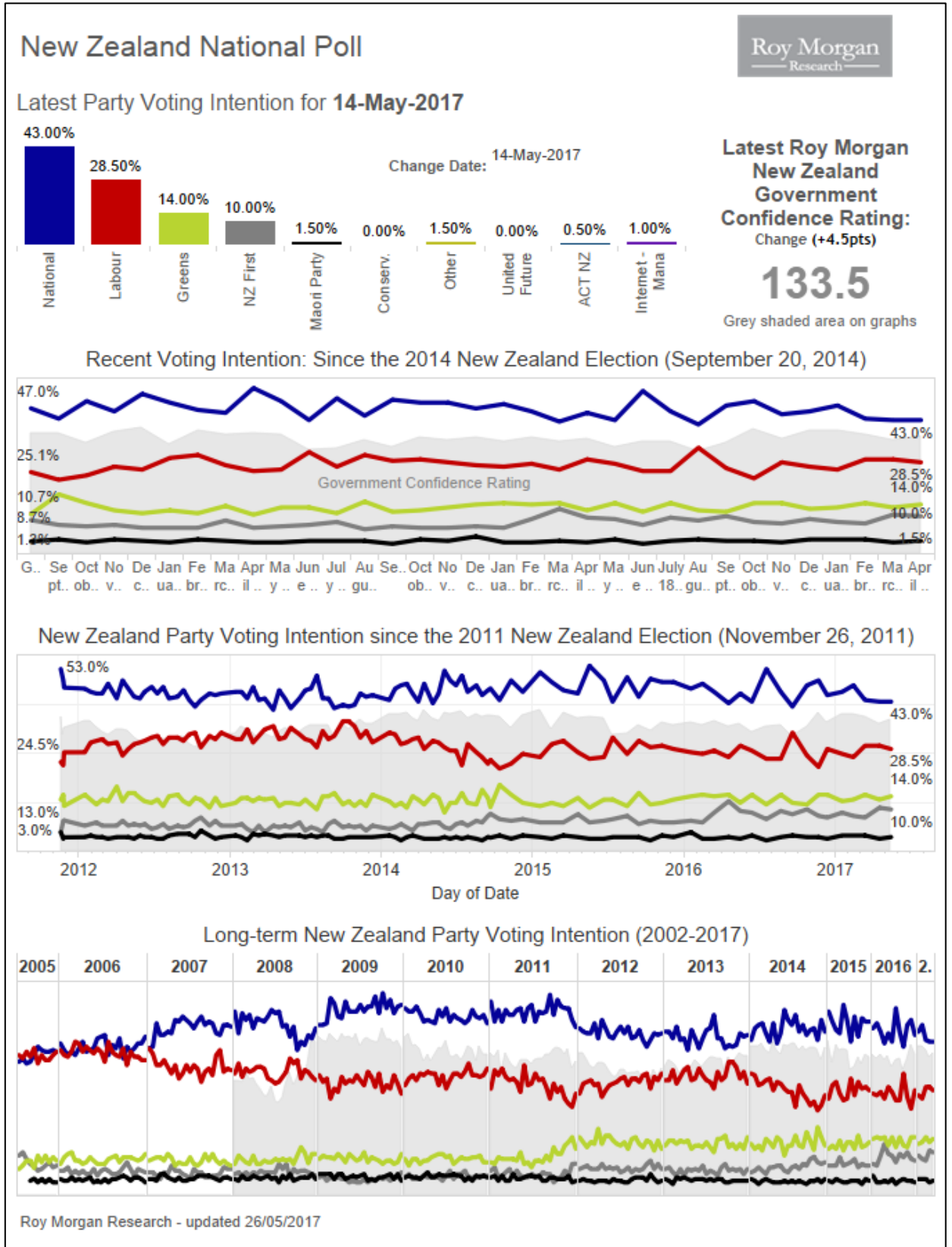
Contact	Office	Mobile
Gary Morgan:	+61 3 9224 5213	+61 411 129 094
Michele Levine:	+61 3 9224 5215	+61 411 129 093

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.](#)

Purchase the latest Roy Morgan [New Zealand Electorate Profiles](#).



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, 2016	45.5	29.5	12	9.5	1	1	^	0.5	^	^	1
May 30-June 12, 2016	43	28	14.5	9	2	0.5	^	1	0.5	0.5	1
July 4-17, 2016	53	25.5	11.5	7	0.5	1	^	0.5	0.5	^	0.5
August 8-21, 2016	46	25.5	14.5	9.5	1.5	1	^	1	0.5	^	0.5
Sep 5-18, 2016	41.5	33.5	12	8.5	2	1	^	0.5	^	^	1
Oct 10-23, 2016	48	26.5	11.5	10	1.5	0.5	^	^	^	0.5	1.5
Nov 7-20, 2016	49.5	23	14.5	8	1.5	1	0.5	0.5	^	^	1.5
Nov 28-Dec 11, 2016	45	28.5	14.5	7.5	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	^	0.5	1.5
January 3 -16, 2017	46	27	12.5	9	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	^	^	2
Jan 30 - Feb 12, 2017	48	26	13	8	2	1	^	^	^	^	2
Feb 27-March 12, 2017	43.5	29.5	14.5	7.5	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	^	0.5	1
April 3-16, 2017	43	29.5	13	10.5	1	1.5	^	0.5	^	^	1
May 1-14, 2017	43	28.5	14	10	1.5	0.5	^	^	1	^	1.5

^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%).

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
May 30-June 12, 2016	45.5	51.5
July 4-17, 2016	54.5	44
Aug 8-21, 2016	48.5	49.5
Sep 5-18, 2016	44.5	54
Oct 10-23, 2016	50	48
Nov 7-20, 2016	52.5	45.5
Nov 28-Dec 11, 2016	47	50.5
January 3-16, 2017	49	48.5
Jan 30-Feb 12, 2017	51	47
Feb 27-Mar 12, 2017	46.5	51.5
April 3-16, 2017	45.5	53
May 1-14, 2017	45	52.5

*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. 7239 taken from Computer Report No. 2436

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.)

	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>	Mar 2-15, <u>2015</u>	April 6-19, <u>2015</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	61.5	56	62.5	67	55	64.5	62
Wrong direction	24.5	30	24.5	23	31	24	27
Roy Morgan GCR#	137	126	138	144	124	140.5	135
Can't say	14	14	13	10	14	11.5	11
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

	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>	Oct 26- Nov 8, <u>2015</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	63	62.5	51	54	58	53	60
Wrong direction	26.5	27	33	34	29.5	31	28.5
Roy Morgan GCR#	136.5	135.5	118	120	128.5	122	131.5
Can't say	11	10.5	16	12	12.5	16	11.5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

	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>	May 30-June 12, <u>2016</u>	Jul 4-17 <u>2016</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	59.5	59.5	56.5	61	57.5	59	54.5	57.5
Wrong direction	31	28	28.5	29	30.5	29	34	30.5
Roy Morgan GCR#	128.5	131.5	128	132	127	130	120.5	127
Can't say	9.5	12.5	15	10	12	12	11.5	12
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

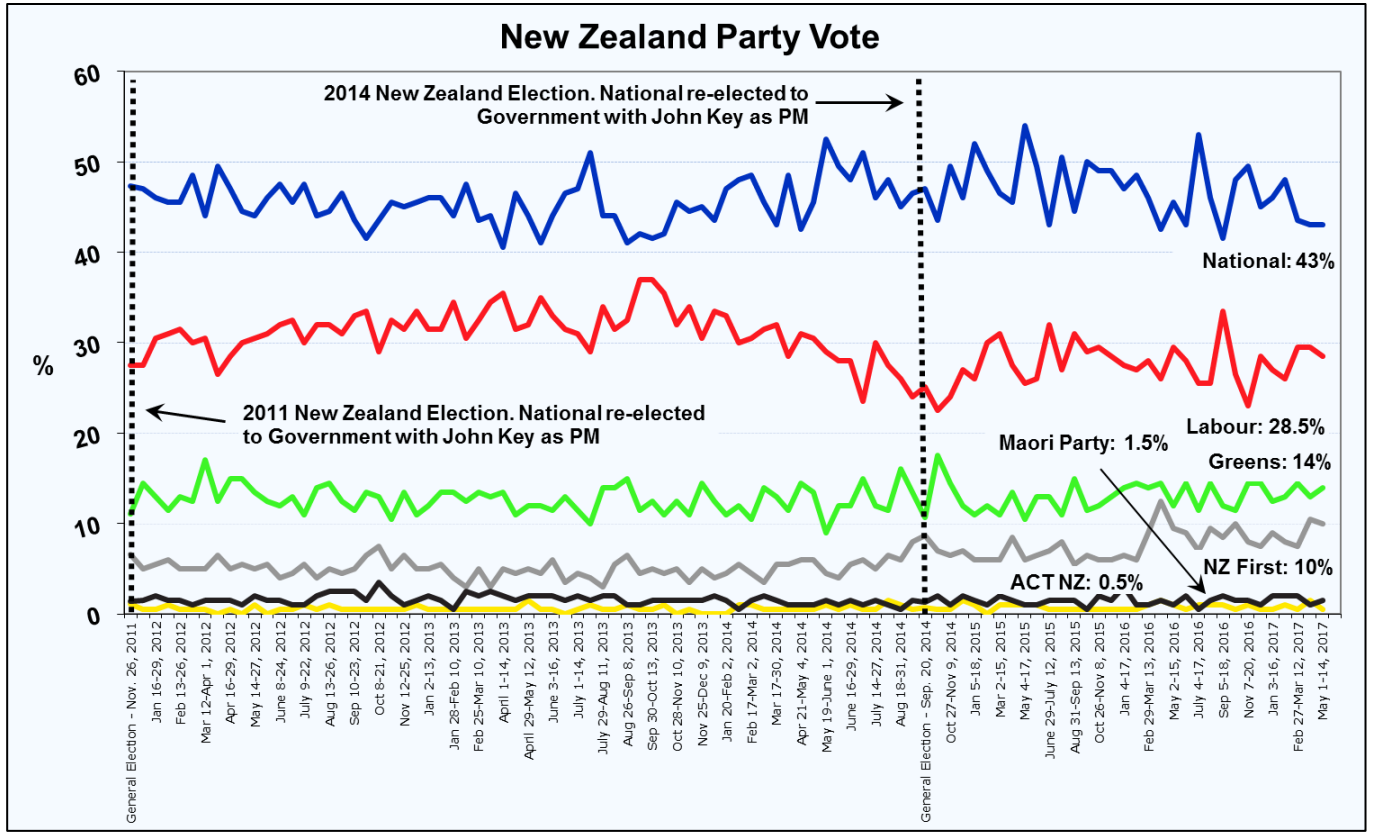
	Aug 8-21, <u>2016</u>	Sep 5-18, <u>2016</u>	Oct 10-23, <u>2016</u>	Nov 7-20, <u>2016</u>	Nov 28-Dec 11, <u>2016</u>	Jan 3-16, <u>2017</u>	Jan 30-Feb 12, <u>2017</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	58	52	55.5	65	58.5	63	63.5
Wrong direction	30.5	35	29	24	27.5	23	23.5
Roy Morgan GCR#	127.5	117	126.5	141	131	140	140
Can't say	11.5	13	15.5	11	14	14	13
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

	Feb 27-Mar 12, <u>2017</u>	April 3-16, <u>2017</u>	May 1-14, <u>2017</u>
	%	%	%
Right direction	61.5	58	60.5
Wrong direction	25.5	29	27
Roy Morgan GCR#	136	129	133.5
Can't say	13	13	12.5
TOTAL	100	100	100

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New Zealand Party Vote



New Zealand Roy Morgan GCR

