

Measuring Public Opinion for over 80 Years

Tuesday, 3 May 2022

NZ Vote: Potential National/Act NZ (47.5%) coalition retains a clear lead over Labour/Greens (44%) in April

Today's Roy Morgan New Zealand Poll shows support for a potential National/Act NZ coalition increasing by 0.5% points to 47.5% in April, clearly ahead of Labour/Greens on 44%, up 1.5% points. This continues to be the equal highest level of support for National since January 2020.

Support for National was down 0.5% points at 37.5% in April but fellow right-leaning party Act NZ increased support by 1% point to 10%. Support for the Maori Party was down 0.5% points to 1.5%.

Support for New Zealand's Labour/Greens 'coalition' government increased by 1.5% points to 44% in April – the first increase in support for the Government for seven months since September 2021. Support for Labour increased 1.5% points to 33.5% while support for the Greens was unchanged at 10.5%.

A minority of 7% of electors (down 1.5% points) support other minor parties outside Parliament with support for New Zealand First down 1.5% points to 2.5%, The Opportunities Party up 0.5% points to 2% and support for the New Conservative Party unchanged at 0.5% in April.

This latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Poll on voting intention was conducted by telephone – both landline and mobile – with a New Zealand-wide cross-section of 918 electors during April. Electors were asked: "If a New Zealand Election were held today which party would receive your party vote?" Of all electors surveyed 4.5%, down 2% points, did not name a party.

New Zealand Government Confidence Rating up 6pts to 93.5 in April

The [Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating increased by 6pts in April 93.5](#). Despite the increase, the Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating is down 42.5pts from a year ago in April 2021 and down 31.5pts since September 2021.

In April, 43% (up 4% points) of electors said New Zealand was 'heading in the right direction' compared to 49.5% (down 2% points) who said New Zealand was 'heading in the wrong direction'.

The latest [ANZ-Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence Rating for New Zealand increased 6.5pts to 84.4](#) and is still below the latest [Consumer Confidence figure in Australia of 90.7 on April 25 - May 1, 2022](#).

Women continue to favour Labour/Greens while men firmly support National and Act NZ

Support for the Labour/ Greens coalition remains strong amongst women. Support for the Labour/ Greens coalition is at 54.5% for women aged 18-49 compared to only 38.5% support for National/ Act NZ. For women aged 50+ support is at 49.5% for the Labour/ Greens coalition compared to 43.5% for National/ Act NZ.

The smallest Parliamentary Opposition, the Maori Party, attracts the support of 2% of women including 3% of women aged 18-49 and 1.5% of women aged 50+.

There is a stark difference for men with 54% supporting National or Act NZ. In March 49% of men aged 18-49 supported National/ Act NZ compared to 40% that supported Labour/ Greens. For men aged 50+ there were 61.5% supporting National/ Act NZ compared to 30% supporting Labour/ Greens.

The Maori Party attracts only 0.5% support from men including 0.5% support of men aged 50+ but minimal support from men aged 18-49.

Support for the Greens is far higher amongst both younger women and younger men than their older counterparts. One-in-five women aged 18-49 (20%) and one-in-eight men aged 18-49 (12.5%) support the Greens compared to only 5% of women aged 50+ and just 4% of men aged 50+.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Party vote analysis by Gender & Age

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Women</u>			<u>Men</u>		
		<u>All</u>	<u>18-49</u>	<u>50+</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>18-49</u>	<u>50+</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Labour	33.5	39.5	34.5	44.5	26.5	27.5	26
Greens	10.5	12.5	20	5	8.5	12.5	4
Labour/ Greens	44	52	54.5	49.5	35	40	30
National	37.5	34.5	30	39	41	37	46.5
Act NZ	10	6.5	8.5	4.5	13.5	12	15
Maori Party	1.5	2	3	1.5	0.5	-	0.5
National/ Act NZ/ Maori Party	49	43	41.5	45	55	49	62
Others	7	5	4	5.5	10	11	8
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating

Right Direction	43	46.5	46.5	46.5	38.5	43	33.5
Wrong Direction	49.5	46	48.5	43.5	53	49.5	57
Government Confidence Rating	93.5	100.5	98	103	85.5	93.5	76.5
Can't say	7.5	7.5	5	10	8.5	7.5	9.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

*The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating is 100 plus the difference between the percentage of Kiwis who say the country is "heading in the right direction" and the percentage who say the country is "seriously heading in the wrong direction".

Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating improved in April – up 6pts to 93.5

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating increased for both genders in April and is now back above the neutral level of 100 for women at 100.5, up 6.5pts on a week ago. There was a similar improvement among men, although the Rating remains significantly lower, up 5.5pts to 85.5.

Amongst women there are now 46.5% who say New Zealand is 'heading in the right direction' compared to 46% that say New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction'.

Now nearly two-fifths of men, 38.5%, say New Zealand is 'heading in the right direction' compared to a clear majority of 53% that say New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction'.

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating is highest for women aged 50+ at 103 while for women aged 18-49 it is slightly lower at 98. There is a larger difference for men with those aged 18-49 having a Government Confidence Rating of 93.5 and only 76.5 for men aged 50+.

Michele Levine, CEO Roy Morgan, says the potential National/Act NZ coalition (47.5%) government has largely held its lead over the governing Labour/Greens government (44%) in April as the country begins to open up to the world following the pandemic:

"Today's Roy Morgan New Zealand Poll has little movement for the major parties with New Zealand beginning the process of re-opening its borders to international travellers during April with Australian travellers allowed into the country for the last three weeks.

"The international border has now re-opened to residents of visa-waiver countries such as the United States, United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea as the country slowly moves past the pandemic restrictions that kept the country one of the safest in the world over the last two years.

“Support for National was down 0.5% points at 37.5% in April and fellow right-leaning party Act NZ increased its support 1% point to 10% - its first increase in support so far this year. As a potential governing coalition National/Act NZ now have 47.5% of the vote.

“In comparison, support for the Labour/ Greens coalition was up 1.5% points to 44%. The increase in support was for Labour, which increased 1.5% points to 33.5% - their first increase in support for over six months since September 2021 while Greens support was unchanged at 10.5%.

“There was positive news for the Labour-Greens government with two key indicators moving in the right direction in April, although both remain in negative territory below the neutral level of 100. The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating increased 6pts to 93.5 while the [ANZ-Roy Morgan New Zealand Consumer Confidence Rating was up 6.5pts to 84.4](#). This is the first time both indicators have improved in the same month for a year since April 2021.

“Perhaps the biggest unknown heading towards next year’s New Zealand Election is whether the ‘gender split’ between the two sides of politics will remain. The trends in April continue to show a huge gap between the political views of women and men.

“In April a clear majority of 54.5% of men support a National/ Act NZ coalition compared to only 35% that support Labour/ Greens – a gap of 19.5% points. In comparison, 52% of women support Labour/ Greens compared to 41% that support National/ Act NZ – a gap of 11% points.

“At the moment the ‘gender gap’ is working in favour of National/ Act NZ although with the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the country slowly re-opening to the world, there are new issues such as inflation and increasing interest rates that are now front and centre.

“The Reserve Bank of New Zealand has now increased interest rates four times since late last year by a total of 1.25% points to 1.50%. Even so, the latest [inflation figures for the March quarter 2022 showed annual inflation at 6.9%](#) - its highest for over 30 years. This compares to an [annual rate of 5.1% ‘across the ditch’ in Australia](#) and suggests there are more interest rate rises to come over the next few months.

“A high inflation rate and an extended cycle of higher interest rates is a new challenge for the government of Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and looks set to be the defining issue over the next 18 months heading into next year’s election.”

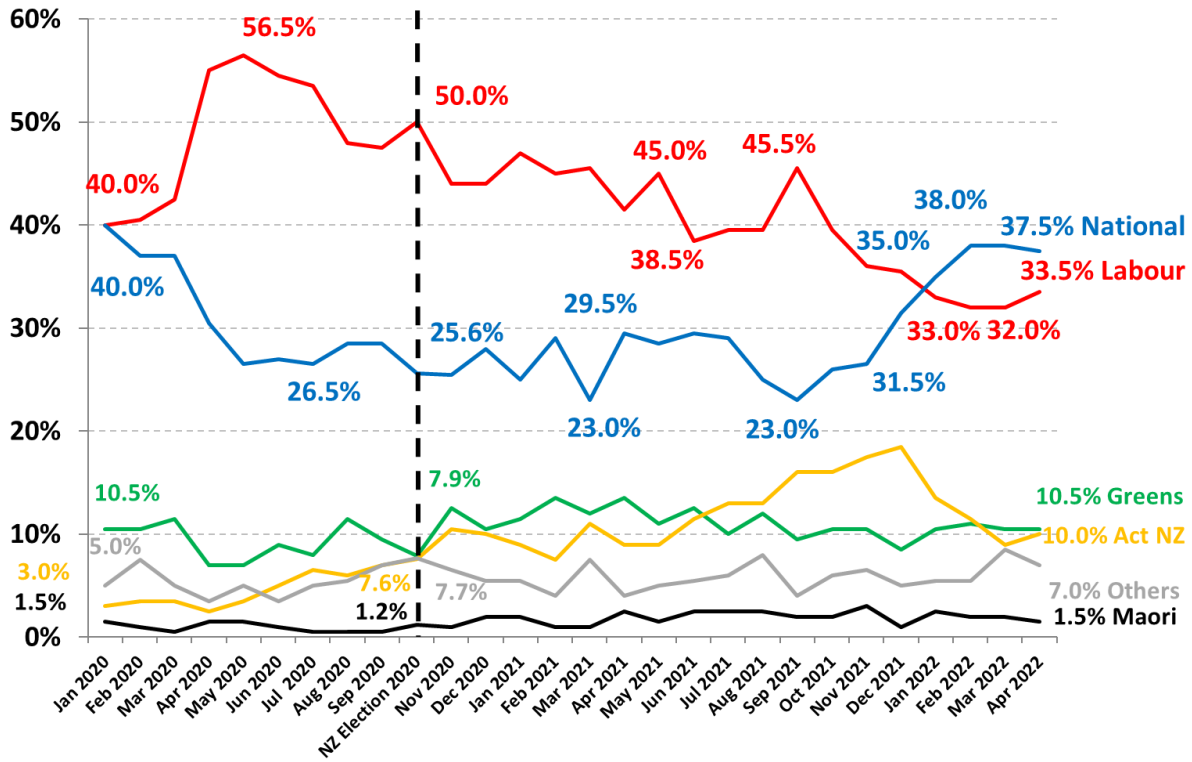
For comments or more information about Roy Morgan’s New Zealand Voting Data and profiles of supporters of Labour, National and other parties, please contact:

Roy Morgan Enquiries

Office: +61 (3) 9224 5309

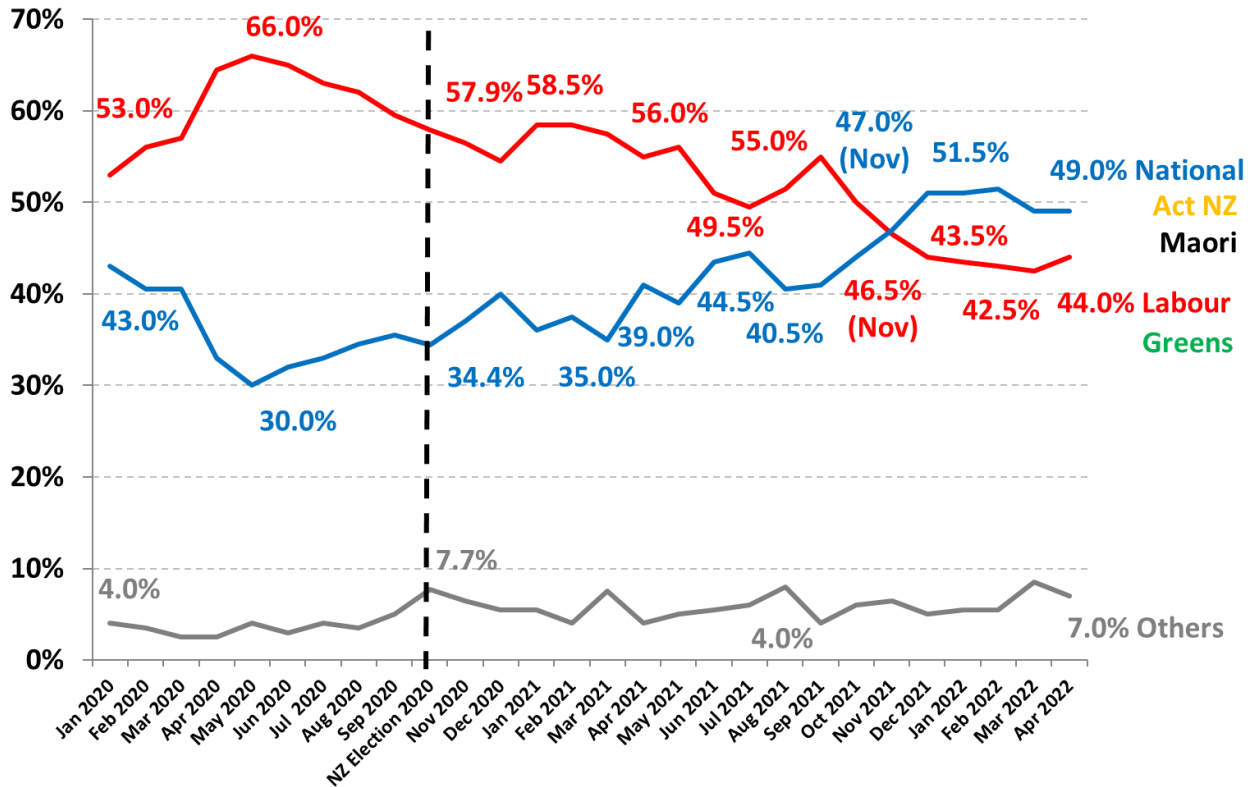
askroymorgan@roymorgan.com

New Zealand Party Vote: 2020-22



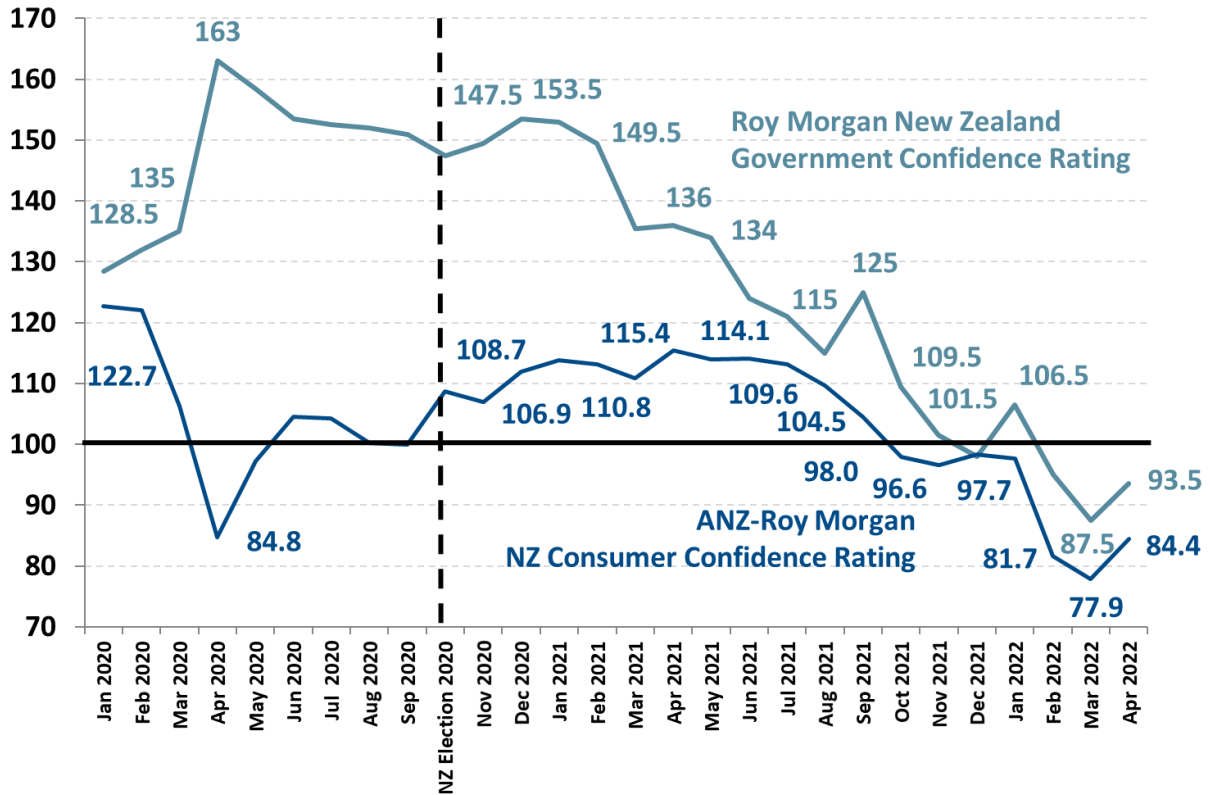
Source: Roy Morgan New Zealand Single Source. January 2020 – April 2022.
Base: New Zealand electors aged 18+. Average interviews per month = 933.

New Zealand Party Vote: NZ Govt. v Parliamentary Opposition



Source: Roy Morgan New Zealand Single Source. January 2020 – April 2022.
Base: New Zealand electors aged 18+. Average interviews per month = 933.

Roy Morgan NZ Government Confidence Rating vs. ANZ-Roy Morgan NZ Consumer Confidence



Source: Roy Morgan New Zealand Single Source. January 2020 – April 2022.
 Base: New Zealand electors aged 18+. Average interviews per month = 933.

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

	Labour Party-led Government (Labour, Greens)	Parliamentary Opposition Parties (National, Act NZ & Maori)
NZ Election, October 17, 2020*	57.87	34.33

ROY MORGAN NEW ZEALAND POLL

Labour wins the NZ Election and, despite securing a majority of seats in Parliament, signs a 'Cooperation Agreement' with the Greens – October 31, 2020

Month	Labour Party-led Government (Labour, Greens)	Parliamentary Opposition Parties (National, Act NZ & Maori)
2021		
January 2021	58.5	36
February 2021	58.5	37.5
March 2021	57.5	35
April 2021	55	41
May 2021	56	39
June 2021	51	43.5
July 2021	49.5	44.5
August 2021	51.5	40.5
September 2021	55	41
October 2021	50	44
November 2021	46.5	47
December 2021	44	51
2022		
January 2022	43.5	51
February 2022	43	51.5
March 2022	42.5	49
April 2022	44	49

*At the 2020 NZ Election the Labour party secured 50.01% of the vote which was enough to govern in their own right but Labour opted to sign a 'Cooperation Agreement' with the Greens, who won 7.86% of the vote. There were three Parties elected to Parliament not in Government led by National (25.58%), Act NZ (7.59%) and the Maori Party (1.17%).

Voting Intention Summary

The following table compares the latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Polls on Voting Intention with the result from the October 17, 2020, General Election:

National-led Governments (& supporting parties) are highlighted in Blue.

Labour-led Governments (& supporting parties) are highlighted in Red.

PARTY VOTE ELECTIONS	Labour %	Green Party* %	National %	ACT NZ %	Maori Party** %	TOP** %	NZ First %	Other %
October 12, 1996*	28.19	10.10	33.87	6.10	n/a	n/a	13.35	8.39
November 27, 1999	38.74	5.16	30.50	7.04	n/a	n/a	4.26	14.30
July 27, 2002	41.26	7.00	20.93	7.14	n/a	n/a	10.38	13.29
September 17, 2005	41.10	5.30	39.10	1.51	2.12	n/a	5.72	5.15
November 8, 2008	33.99	6.72	44.93	3.65	2.39	n/a	4.07	4.25
November 26, 2011	27.48	11.06	47.31	1.07	1.43	n/a	6.59	5.06
September 20, 2014	25.13	10.70	47.04	0.69	1.32	n/a	8.66	6.46
September 23, 2017	36.89	6.27	44.45	0.50	1.18	2.44	7.20	1.07
October 17, 2020	50.01	7.86	25.58	7.59	1.17	1.51	2.60	3.70
ROY MORGAN POLL								
December 2020	44	10.5	28	10	2	2	2	1.5
2021								
January 2021	47	11.5	25	9	2	1.5	2	2
February 2021	45	13.5	29	7.5	1	1	1.5	1.5
March 2021	45.5	12	23	11	1	2	2.5	3
April 2021	41.5	13.5	29.5	9	2.5	0.5	1	2.5
May 2021	45	11	28.5	9	1.5	1.5	2	1.5
June 2021	38.5	12.5	29.5	11.5	2.5	2	1.5	2
July 2021	39.5	10	29	13	2.5	3	2	1
August 2021	39.5	12	25	13	2.5	2	2.5	3.5
September 2021	45.5	9.5	23	16	2	1.5	1.5	1
October 2021	39.5	10.5	26	16	2	1	2.5	2.5
November 2021	36	10.5	26.5	17.5	3	1.5	2.5	2.5
December 2021	35.5	8.5	31.5	18.5	1	1	2	2
2022								
January 2022	33	10.5	35	13.5	2.5	1.5	2.5	1.5
February 2022	32	11	38	11.5	2	1	2	2.5
March 2022	32	10.5	38	9	2	1.5	4	3
April 2022	33.5	10	37.5	10	1.5	2	2.5	3

*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.

**The Maori Party was launched in July 2004. The Opportunities Party (TOP) was launched in November 2016.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Roy Morgan New Zealand Seat Predictor

The following table compares the projected seats to be won by the various New Zealand political parties based on the latest New Zealand Roy Morgan Polls on Voting Intention with the results from previous MMP Elections:

National-led Governments (& supporting parties) are highlighted in Blue.

Labour-led Governments (& supporting parties) are highlighted in Red.

SEAT COUNT ELECTIONS	Labour %	Green Party* %	National %	ACT NZ %	Maori Party** %	NZ First %	Other %
October 12, 1996*	37	0	44	8	0	17	14*
November 27, 1999	49	7	39	9	0	5	11*
July 27, 2002	52	9	27	9	0	13	10*
September 17, 2005	50	6	48	2	4	7	4*
November 8, 2008	43	9	58	5	5	0	2*
November 26, 2011	34	14	59	1	3	8	2*
September 20, 2014	32	14	60	1	2	11	1*
September 23, 2017	46	8	56	1	0	9	0
October 17, 2020	65	10	33	10	2	0	0
ROY MORGAN SEAT PREDICTOR							
December 2020	56	13	36	13	2	0	0
2021							
January 2021	60	15	32	11	2	0	0
February 2021	56	17	36	10	1	0	0
March 2021	59	16	30	14	1	0	0
April 2021	52	17	37	11	3	0	0
May 2021	57	14	36	11	2	0	0
June 2021	49	16	37	15	3	0	0
July 2021	50	13	37	17	3	0	0
August 2021	51	16	33	17	4	0	0
September 2021	57	12	29	20	2	0	0
October 2021	51	13	33	20	3	0	0
November 2021	46	14	34	22	4	0	0
December 2021	45	11	40	23	1	0	0
2022							
January 2022	42	13	45	17	3	0	0
February 2022	41	14	48	15	2	0	0
March 2022	42	14	50	12	2	0	0
April 2022	43	13	49	13	2	0	0

*Other seats won at elections from 1996 - 2014 include: 1996 – 14 seats: Alliance (13 seats) & United NZ (1 seat); 1999 – 11 seats: Alliance (10 seats) & United NZ (1 seat); 2002 – 10 seats: United Future (8 seats) & Progressive (2 seats); 2005 – 4 seats: United Future (3 seats) & Progressive (1 seat); 2008 – 2 seats: Progressive (1 seat) & United Future (1 seat); 2011 – 2 seats: United Future (1 seat) & Mana Party (1 seat); 2014 – 1 seat: United Future (1 seat).

Fourth National Government (1990 – 1999): 1996 NZ Election: National (44 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs in coalition with NZ First (17 seats) for a total of 61 seats in the 120 seat Parliament.

Fifth Labour Government (1999-2008): 1999 NZ Election: Labour (49 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs in coalition with Alliance (10 seats) and the support of the Greens (7 seats) for a total of 66 seats in the 120 seat Parliament. **2002 NZ Election:** Labour (52 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs in coalition with the Progressive Coalition (2 seats) and confidence and supply from United Future (8 seats) for a total of 62 seats in the 120 seat Parliament. **2005 NZ Election:** Labour (50 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs in coalition with the Progressive Coalition (1 seat) and confidence and supply from New Zealand First (7 seats) and United Future (3 seats) for a total of 61 seats in the 121 seat Parliament (including 1 'overhang' seat).

Fifth National Government (2008-2017): 2008 NZ Election: National (58 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs with the confidence and supply of Act NZ (5 seats), the Maori Party (5 seats) and United Future (1 seat) for a total of 69 seats in the 122 seat Parliament (including 2 'overhang' seats). **2011 NZ Election:** National (59 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs with the confidence and supply of Maori Party (3 seats), Act NZ (1 seat) and United Future (1 seat) for a total of 64 seats in the 121 seat Parliament (including 1 'overhang' seat). **2014 NZ Election:** National (60 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs with the confidence and supply of Maori Party (2 seats), Act NZ (1 seat) and United Future (1 seat) for a total of 64 seats in the 121 seat Parliament (including 1 'overhang' seat).

Sixth Labour Government (2017-?): 2017 NZ Election: Labour (46 seats) 'wins' the NZ Election and governs in coalition with NZ First (9 seats) and the confidence and supply of the Greens (8 seats) for a total of 63 seats in the 120 seat Parliament. **2020 NZ Election:** Labour (65 seats) wins the NZ Election and governs with the cooperation of the Greens (10 seats) for a total of 75 seats in the 120 seat Parliament.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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 (Labour Party Govt.)

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	66.5	68	58	59	60.5	77	76	72	71.5	71	70.5	68.5	69.5	71.5
Wrong direction	20	18	29.5	27	25.5	14	17.5	18.5	19	19	19.5	21	20	18
Roy Morgan GCR#	146.5	150	128.5	132	135	163	158.5	153.5	152.5	152	151	147.5	149.5	153.5
Can't say	13.5	14	12.5	14	14	9	6.5	9.5	9.5	10	10	10.5	10.5	10.5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	71.5	69.5	61.5	62.5	62.5	57	55.5	52.5	57	48	46	42.5	48.5	42.5	39	43
Wrong direction	18.5	20	26	26.5	28.5	33	34.5	37.5	32	38.5	44.5	44.5	42	47.5	51.5	49.5
Roy Morgan GCR#	153	149.5	135.5	136	134	124	121	115	125	109.5	101.5	98	106.5	95	87.5	93.5
Can't say	10	10.5	12.5	11	9	10	10	10	11	13.5	9.5	13	9.5	10	9.5	7.5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

#Roy Morgan GCR = Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating (The Roy Morgan GCR is 100 plus the difference between the percentage of Kiwis who say the country is “heading in the right direction” and the percentage who say the country is “seriously heading in the wrong direction”).

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.

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