

Wednesday, 14 January 2026

Entering 2026, the New Zealand Election due later this year remains on a knife-edge

Roy Morgan's New Zealand Poll for December 2025 shows the National-led Government (National, ACT & NZ First) on 50.5%, up 0.5% points from a month earlier, marginally in front of the Labour-Greens-Maori Party Parliamentary Opposition on 47%, up 2.5% points, the latest Roy Morgan New Zealand Poll finds.

Amongst the National-led Government support for National was unchanged at 33%, support for NZ First increased 1% to 10%, while support for ACT was down 0.5% at 7.5%.

For the Parliamentary Opposition, support for Labour was up 4.5% points to 32.5%, support for the Greens dropped 2.5% points to 12%, and support for the Maori Party was virtually unchanged at 2.5%.

A further 2.5% (down 3% points) of electors supported The Opportunities Party (T.O.P.), a minor party outside Parliament.

National-led Government would win 62 seats if a New Zealand Election were held now

The survey results for December would lead to the National-led Government winning 62 seats (down six seats from the election) and the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition would win 58 seats (up three seats).

For the governing coalition National's support would win 41 seats (down eight seats from the election), support for ACT would equal nine seats (down two seats) and NZ First would win 12 seats (up four seats).

For the three Opposition parties Labour's support would secure 40 seats (up six seats from the election), Greens support would mean 15 seats (unchanged) and the Maori Party would win three seats (down three seats).

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 859 electors from November 24 – December 21, 2025. Electors were asked: *"If a New Zealand Election were held today which party would receive your party vote?"* Of all electors surveyed 4.5% (up 1.5% points) did not name a party.

New Zealand Government Confidence Rating was unchanged at 85 in December

The Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating was unchanged at 85 in December. A small majority of 52% (up 1.5% points) of electors say New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction' compared to only 37% (up 1.5% points) who said New Zealand is 'heading in the right direction'.

The [ANZ-Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence Rating for New Zealand was at 101.5 in December](#) and is a large 20 points above the [Consumer Confidence figure in Australia of 81.5 on December 15-21, 2025](#).

Younger people favour the Labour-led Opposition, but older ages favour the Government

A clear majority of 56.5% of women support the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition compared to 42.5% that support the National-led Government. In contrast, a majority of 58% of men favour the National/ ACT/ NZ First coalition government compared to 37.5% supporting the opposition Labour/ Greens/ Maori Party.

Younger women aged 18-49 are the only gender and age group that provides a majority of support to the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition (69.5%) more than double the National-led Government (30%). Support for Labour (43%), the Greens (21.5%), and the Maori Party (5%) is higher amongst this group than any other gender and age group analysed.

Support for the two sides of politics is tight for younger men aged 18-49 with a narrow plurality in support of the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition on 47.5% ahead of the National-led governing coalition on 44.5% - a gap of only 3% points.

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In contrast, older New Zealanders of both genders continue to favour the National-led Government. Women aged 50+ favour the National-led Government (53.5%) over the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition (45.5%). The combined support for the two major parties, National (34.5%) and Labour (36%) at a total of 70.5% is higher amongst this group than any other gender and age group analysed.

A large majority of men aged over 50 support the National/ ACT/ NZ First governing coalition (68.5%) compared to only 29.5% supporting the opposition Labour/ Greens/ Māori Party. Support for National (41.5%), New Zealand First (14%) and ACT (13%) is higher among this demographic than any other gender and age group analysed.

Party vote analysis by Gender & Age

	2023 NZ Election	Dec. 2025	Women			Men		
	%	%	All	18-49	50+	All	18-49	50+
National	38.1	33	31	21	39.5	35.5	28	41.5
ACT	8.6	7.5	3	4.5	2	11.5	9.5	13
NZ First	6.1	10	8.5	4.5	12	11	7	14
National/ ACT/ NZ First	52.8	50.5	42.5	30	53.5	58	44.5	68.5
Labour	26.9	32.5	40	43	37.5	25.5	27.5	23.5
Greens	11.6	12	13.5	21.5	7	10	18	4
Māori Party	3.1	2.5	3	5	1	2	2	2
Labour/ Greens/ Māori Party	41.6	47	56.5	69.5	45.5	37.5	47.5	29.5
Others	5.6	2.5	1	0.5	1	4.5	8	2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating

Right Direction	31	37	33	27.5	39	41	33	51
Wrong Direction	57.5	52	54	61	46.5	49.5	57	40.5
Government Confidence Rating	73.5	85	79	66.5	92.5	91.5	76	110.5
Can't say	11.5	11	13	11.5	14.5	9.5	10	8.5
Total	100	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".*

Government Confidence Rating was unchanged at 85 in December

The Roy Morgan New Zealand Government Confidence Rating was unchanged at 85 in December 2025.

However, Government Confidence moved in different directions for the two genders in December with an increase in the Government Confidence Rating for women, up 4.5 points to 79, but still well below the Government confidence Rating for men on 91.5, down 6 points on a month ago.

For men now 49.5% (up 3% points) say New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction' while 41% (down 1.5% points) say the country is 'heading in the right direction' – equating to a Government Confidence Rating of 91.5. Government Confidence for older men aged 50+ increased 17.5 points to 110.5, but for younger men aged 18-49 dropped 23 points to 76.

Among women a majority of 54% (down 0.5% points) say 'New Zealand is 'heading in the wrong direction', while just 33% (up 4% points) say New Zealand is 'heading in the right direction' – putting the indicator deep into negative territory below 100 at only 79. The Government Confidence Rating for women aged 18-49 jumped 25 points to 92.5, while the Government Confidence Rating for women aged 50+ dropped by 16 points to 66.5 – and clearly the lowest of any gender and age group analysed.

Michele Levine, CEO Roy Morgan, says this year's New Zealand Election is on a knife edge with Prime Minister Christopher Luxon's National-led Government maintaining a narrow lead for a fourth straight month with support for the two major party's neck-and-neck:

"Support for the National-led Government (National, ACT, NZ First) increased 0.5% points to 50.5% in December and is just 3.5% points ahead of the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition (Labour, Greens, Maori Party) on 47%, up 2.5% points.

"The two major parties of government – National and Labour – enter the election year with almost identical support. National is on 33%, which would secure 41 seats in Parliament if repeated at the election, just ahead of Labour on 32.5% (40 seats).

"The overall results, if repeated at the election, would result in the National-led Government winning a majority of 62 seats compared to 58 seats for the Parliamentary Opposition in a (likely) 120 seat Parliament. The ultimate size of the Parliament depends on any 'overhang seats' that may occur if a party wins seats without gaining at least 5% support at the election.

"The National-led Government draws its support most significantly from older men aged 50+ with a large lead over the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition (68.5% cf. 29.5%). In contrast, younger women aged 18-49 are the central pillar of support for the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition over the National-led Government (69.5% cf. 30%).

"Importantly, the National-led Government has maintained its lead among women aged 50+ for a second month (53.5% cf. 45.5%), underpinning its overall lead, although men aged 18-49 have swung back to favour the Labour-led Parliamentary Opposition (47.5% cf. 44.5%).

"The good news for the National-led Government in December was the [Reserve Bank of New Zealand's \(RBNZ\) decision to cut interest rates in late November by 0.25% to 2.25%](#) - now the lowest official interest rates have been for over three years since July 2022.

"The RBNZ has cut interest rates by 2% points in 2025 and by a total of 3.25% points since August 2024. Prime Minister Christopher Luxon will be hoping the sharp cuts to interest rates over the last 18 months will provide renewed support to the economy in the run-up to this year's election – due to be held towards the end of the year.

"Luxon and his National colleagues are hoping to avoid being the first one-term New Zealand Government for over 50 years since 1975."

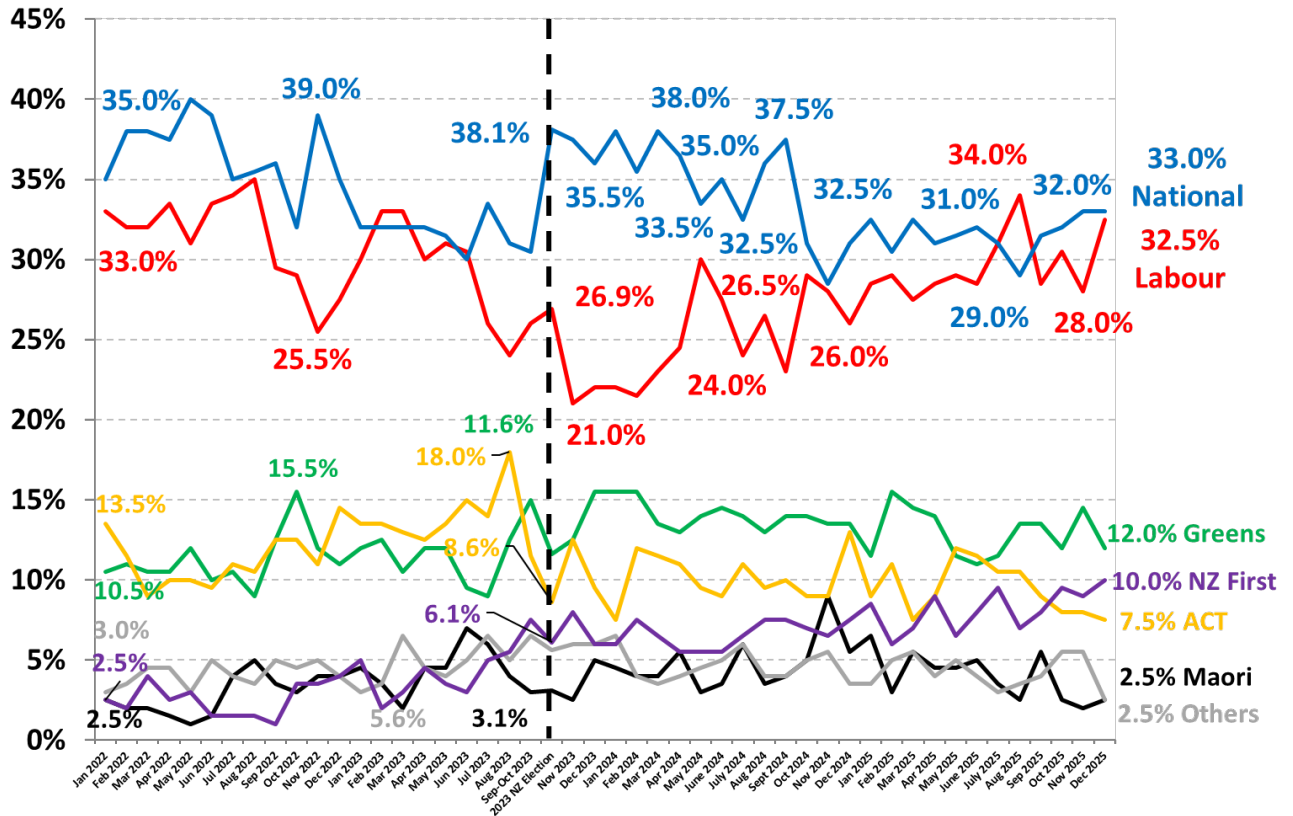
For comments or more information about Roy Morgan's New Zealand Voting Data and profiles of supporters of Labour, National and other parties, please contact:

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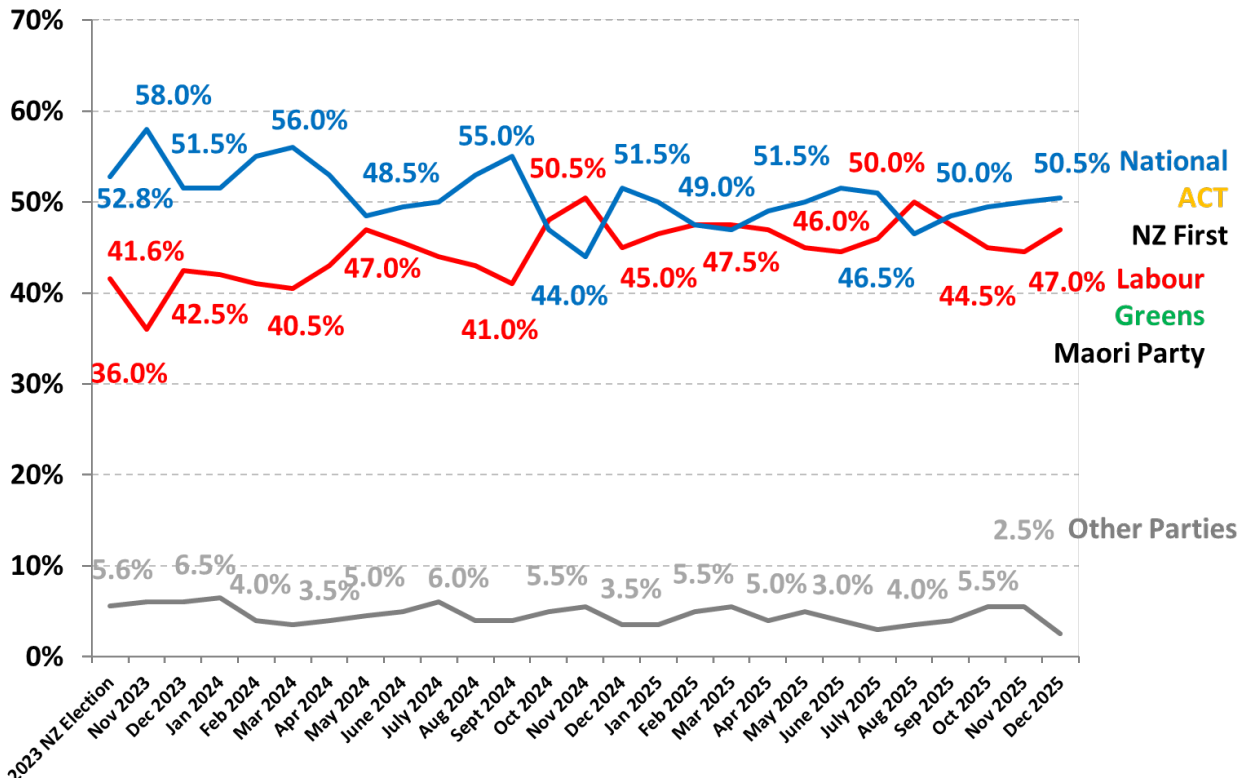
New Zealand Party Vote: 2022-25



Source: Roy Morgan New Zealand Single Source. January 2022 – December 2025.

Base: New Zealand electors aged 18+. Average interviews per month – 920.

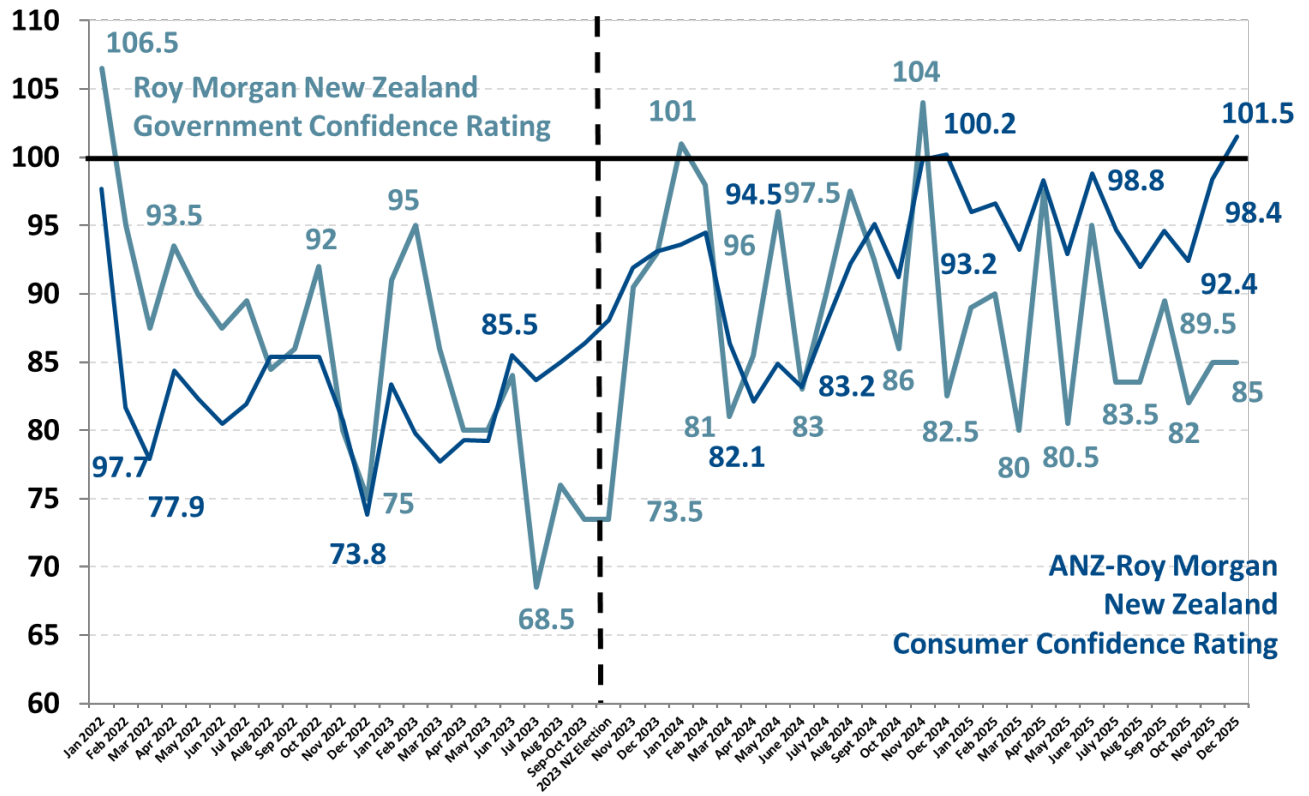
New Zealand Party Vote: NZ Govt. v Parliamentary Opposition



Source: Roy Morgan New Zealand Single Source. November 2023 - December 2025.

Base: New Zealand electors aged 18+. Average interviews per month – 886.

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



Source: Roy Morgan New Zealand Single Source. January 2022 – December 2025.

Base: New Zealand electors aged 18+. Average interviews per month – 920.

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

	<u>National-led Government</u> (National, ACT & NZ First)	<u>Parliamentary Opposition Parties</u> (Labour, Greens & Maori Party)
NZ Election, October 14, 2023*	52.80	41.59

ROY MORGAN NEW ZEALAND POLL

National wins the NZ Election and signs a governing coalition agreement with ACT and NZ First on Friday November 24, 2023

January 2024	51.5	42
February 2024	55	41
March 2024	56	40.5
April 2024	53	43
May 2024	48.5	47
June 2024	49.5	45.5
July 2024	50	44
August 2024	53	43
September 2024	55	41
October 2024	47	48
November 2024	44	50.5
December 2024	51.5	45
2025		
January 2025	50	46.5
February 2025	47.5	47.5
March 2025	47	47.5
April 2025	49	47
May 2025	50	45
June 2025	51.5	44.5
July 2025	51	46
August 2025	46.5	50
September 2025	48.5	47.5
October 2025	49.5	45
November 2025	50	44.5
December 2025	50.5	47

**At the 2023 NZ Election the National party secured 38.08% of the vote and needed the support of ACT (8.64%) and NZ First (6.08%) to secure a governing coalition with a majority of seats in the Parliament. There were three Parties elected to Parliament not in Government including Labour (26.91%), Greens (11.6%) and the Maori Party (3.08%).*

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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 October 14, 2023, General Election:

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

PARTY VOTE ELECTIONS	National %	ACT %	NZ First %	Labour %	Green Party* %	Maori Party** %	TOP** %	Other %
October 12, 1996*	33.87	6.10	13.35	28.19	10.10	n/a	n/a	8.39
November 27, 1999	30.50	7.04	4.26	38.74	5.16	n/a	n/a	14.30
July 27, 2002	20.93	7.14	10.38	41.26	7.00	n/a	n/a	13.29
September 17, 2005	39.10	1.51	5.72	41.10	5.30	2.12	n/a	5.15
November 8, 2008	44.93	3.65	4.07	33.99	6.72	2.39	n/a	4.25
November 26, 2011	47.31	1.07	6.59	27.48	11.06	1.43	n/a	5.06
September 20, 2014	47.04	0.69	8.66	25.13	10.70	1.32	n/a	6.46
September 23, 2017	44.45	0.50	7.20	36.89	6.27	1.18	2.44	1.07
October 17, 2020	25.58	7.59	2.60	50.01	7.86	1.17	1.51	3.70
October 14, 2023	38.08	8.64	6.08	26.91	11.60	3.08	2.22	3.35
ROY MORGAN POLL								
2024								
January 2024	38	7.5	6	22	15.5	4.5	4.5	2
February 2024	35.5	12	7.5	21.5	15.5	4	2.5	1.5
March 2024	38	11.5	6.5	23	13.5	4	2.5	1
April 2024	36.5	11	5.5	24.5	13	5.5	2	2
May 2024	33.5	9.5	5.5	30	14	3	3	1.5
June 2024	35	9	5.5	27.5	14.5	3.5	2.5	2.5
July 2024	32.5	11	6.5	24	14	6	4.5	1.5
August 2024	36	9.5	7.5	26.5	13	3.5	2.5	1.5
September 2024	37.5	10	7.5	23	14	4	2.5	1.5
October 2024	31	9	7	29	14	5	2	3
November 2024	28.5	9	6.5	28	13.5	9	3.5	2
December 2024	31	13	7.5	26	13.5	5.5	1	2.5
2025								
January 2025	32.5	9	8.5	28.5	11.5	6.5	1.5	2
February 2025	30.5	11	6	29	15.5	3	2.5	2.5
March 2025	32.5	7.5	7	27.5	14.5	5.5	4	1.5
April 2025	31	9	9	28.5	14	4.5	2.5	1.5
May 2025	31.5	12	6.5	29	11.5	4.5	3	2
June 2025	32	11.5	8	28.5	11	5	3	1
July 2025	31	10.5	9.5	31	11.5	3.5	1	2
August 2025	29	10.5	7	34	13.5	2.5	3	0.5
September 2025	31.5	9	8	28.5	13.5	5.5	2.5	1.5
October 2025	32	8	9.5	30.5	12	2.5	2.5	3
November 2025	33	8	9	28	14.5	2	2.5	3
December 2025	33	7.5	10	32.5	12	2.5	2.5	0

*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.

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	National %	ACT %	NZ First %	Labour %	Green Party* %	Maori Party** %	Other %
October 12, 1996*	44	8	17	37	0	0	14*
November 27, 1999	39	9	5	49	7	0	11*
July 27, 2002	27	9	13	52	9	0	10*
September 17, 2005	48	2	7	50	6	4	4*
November 8, 2008	58	5	0	43	9	5	2*
November 26, 2011	59	1	8	34	14	3	2*
September 20, 2014	60	1	11	32	14	2	1*
September 23, 2017	56	1	9	46	8	0	0
October 17, 2020	33	10	0	65	10	2	0
October 14, 2023	49	11	8	34	15	6	0
ROY MORGAN SEAT PREDICTOR							
March 2024	47	14	8	29	17	5	0
April 2024	45	14	7	31	16	7	0
May 2024	42	12	7	38	17	4	0
June 2024	44	11	7	35	18	5	0
July 2024	41	14	8	31	18	8	0
August 2024	45	12	9	33	16	5	0
September 2024	47	13	9	29	17	5	0
October 2024	39	11	9	37	18	6	0
November 2024	37	11	8	36	17	11	0
December 2024	39	16	9	32	17	7	0
2025							
January 2025	40	11	11	36	14	8	0
February 2025	39	14	7	37	19	4	0
March 2025	41	10	9	35	18	7	0
April 2025	39	11	11	36	17	6	0
May 2025	40	15	8	37	14	6	0
June 2025	40	14	10	36	14	6	0
July 2025	38	13	12	38	14	5	0
August 2025	36	13	9	42	17	3	0
September 2025	39	11	10	36	17	7	0
October 2025	41	10	12	39	15	3	0
November 2025	42	10	11	36	18	3	0
December 2025	41	9	12	40	15	3	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 (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 (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 (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 (2017-2023): 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.

Sixth National Government (2023-?): 2023 NZ Election: National (48 seats) 'wins' the NZ Election and governs in coalition with ACT (16 seats) and NZ First (10 seats) for a total of 74 seats in the 123 seat Parliament (including 3 'overhang' seats).

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.)

	May 2022	Jun 2022	Jul 2022	Aug 2022	Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	Jun 2023	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep-Oct 2023
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	40	39	40.5	37.5	37.5	42	35	32	40	42.5	38.5	35	34.5	38	29	32	31
Wrong direction	50	51.5	51	53	51.5	50	55	57	49	47.5	52.5	55	54.5	54	60.5	56	57.5
Roy Morgan GCR#	90	87.5	89.5	84.5	86	92	80	75	91	95	86	80	80	84	68.5	76	73.5
Can't say	10	9.5	8.5	9.5	11	8	10	11	11	10	9	10	11	8	10.5	12	11.5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NZ Roy Morgan Government Confidence Rating: Interviewing Dates (National from Nov. 2023)

	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	June 2024	July 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	36.5	38	42	41.5	35	34.5	43	35.5	38	43	39	36.5	46.5	35	37.5	39
Wrong direction	46	45	41	43.5	54	49	47	52.5	48	45.5	46.5	50.5	42.5	52.5	48.5	49
Roy Morgan GCR#	90.5	93	101	98	81	85.5	96	83	90	97.5	92.5	86	104	82.5	89	90
Can't say	17.5	17	17	15	11	16.5	10	12	14	11.5	14.5	13	11	12.5	14	12
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Right direction	32.5	40.5	35	41	37	37	39	35.5	35.5	37						
Wrong direction	52.5	43	54.5	46	53.5	53.5	49.5	53.5	50.5	52						
Roy Morgan GCR#	80	97.5	80.5	95	83.5	83.5	89.5	82	85	85						
Can't say	15	16.5	10.5	13	9.5	9.5	11.5	11	14	11						
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