

Horizon Research

Fast-track Approvals Bill Survey May 2024

Prepared for **Greenpeace**



Contents

Executive Summary	2
Report	4
1. Fast-track Approvals Bill	4
Awareness of the Fast-Track Approvals Bill	4
What do people think of the Fast-track Approvals Bill?	5
Concern about aspects of the Fast-track Approvals Bill	7
Concern about potential developments under the Fast-track Approvals Bill	10
Prioritising mining developments	12
How important is the Fast-track Approvals Bill issue	14
2. Vision for future of New Zealand	16
Appendix 1 – Sample	18



Executive Summary

Approach

These results are from a Horizon Research survey conducted between 20th and 25th May 2024. The total sample size was 1,060 adults, 18 years of age and over.

The maximum margin of error is ±3% (at the 95% confidence level). The data was weighted on education, ethnicity, region, personal income and Party Vote 2023 to match the adult population.

Summary

53% (2,195,000 adults) have heard of the Fast-track Approvals Bill.

70% of people under 35 years old have not heard of the Bill.

Opinion on the Fast-track Approvals Bill is evenly split.

- 34% (1,391,000 adults) think the Fast-track Approvals Bill is a good idea
- **37%** (1,543,000 adults) think it is a bad idea
- 29% (1,188,000 adults) are not sure.

Overall, the issue of the Fast-track Approvals Bill is considered *important* to **55%** (2,282,000 adults) when compared to other issues.

• **22**% (887,000 adults) said it was very important.

The biggest concern about the Fast-track Approvals Bill for was that *activities, currently* prohibited (like dumping raw sewage into the ocean) could be allowed. **81%** (3,322,000 adults) said they are concerned by this.

The second biggest concern for **70%** (2,847,000 adults) was that developments that have been stopped in the Supreme Court (like seabed mining in a blue whale habitat) could be allowed to go ahead.

Of least concern was the bill does not require developers to consider Te Tiriti o Waitangi, with just over half **51%** (2,076,000 adults) saying they were concerned about it.



Are you concerned or not concerned about these aspects of the Fast-track Approvals Bill?	Very concerned/ concerned	Not concerned/not concerned at all
Members of the public will not have the right to have a say on fast-tracked developments proposed for their community.	70%	23%
Activities that are currently prohibited (like dumping raw sewage into the ocean) could be allowed.	81%	14%
Developments that have been stopped in the Supreme Court (like seabed mining in a blue whale habitat) could be allowed to go ahead.	70%	24%
Three Ministers will have the power to decide on development projects, with few checks and balances.	65%	28%
The bill does not require developers to consider Te Tiriti o Waitangi.	51%	43%
It could create a risk that commercial interests, some of whom have made donations to political parties and MPs, may influence development decisions.	68%	24%

Respondents were asked how concerned or unconcerned they were about potential consequences of fast-track approval related to certain developments.

The biggest concern was seabed mining in the ocean - 64% (2,633,000 adults).

Second biggest concern was mining on conservation land - 61% (2,517,000 adults).

How concerned or unconcerned are you about each of these potential consequences of these developments if given fast-track approval under the proposed new law?	Very concerned/ concerned	Not concerned/not concerned at all
Seabed mining in the ocean	64%	28%
Mining on conservation land	61%	32%
More oil, gas and coal extraction	53%	38%
Dairy farm expansion	48%	41%
Large dams and irrigation schemes	46%	44%

60% (2,480,000 adults) do not agree that developments like mining should be prioritised even if they mean the extinction of native species.

• 25% (1,015,000 adults) do think developments like mining should be prioritised.

Vision for future of New Zealand

61% of respondents (2,509,000 adults) want to see more development, but only if it is managed in a way that doesn't do more damage to nature.

27% (1,110,000 adults) want to see more natural areas protected and restored, even if that means less or slower development.

12% (508,000 adults) want to see more development, even if that means some natural areas will be damaged or lost.



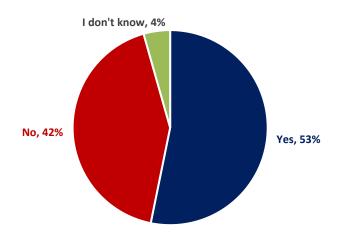
Report

1. Fast-track Approvals Bill

Awareness of the Fast-Track Approvals Bill

53% (2,195,000 adults) had heard of the Fast-track Approvals Bill and **42%** (1,750,000 adults) said they had not heard of it.

Had you heard about the Fast-track Approvals Bill before taking this survey?



Total sample n=1,059

The table below shows the people who are significantly more likely to have *heard* or *not have heard* about the Bill.

Heard about Fast-tr Approvals Bill 53%	ack	Haven't heard about Fast-track Approvals Bill 42%		
55+ year olds	75%	Under 35 year olds	70%	
Males	63%	Females	50%	
Personal income		Personal income		
\$50k-\$150k	59%	less than \$50k	57%	
Personal income		Asian	71%	
more than \$150k	86%	Indian	73%	
Household income		Māori	52%	
more than \$200k	72%	Pasifika	67%	
NZ European/Pākehā	60%	Living in Auckland	51%	



There are also significant differences among voters of awareness of the Bill.

100

	PARTY VOTE 2023					
ALL	ACT New Zealand	Green Party	Labour Party	National Party	New Zealand First	Te Pāti Māori
53%	76%	78%	56%	62%	71%	65%
42%	20%	21%	40%	33%	21%	31%
4%	4%	2%	4%	5%	8%	4%
	53% 42%	New Zealand 53% 76% 42% 20%	New Zealand	ALL ACT New Zealand Green Party Labour Party 53% 76% 78% 56% 42% 20% 21% 40%	ALL ACT New Zealand Green Party Labour Party National Party 53% 76% 78% 56% 62% 42% 20% 21% 40% 33%	ALL ACT New Zealand Green Party Labour Party National Party New Zealand First 53% 76% 78% 56% 62% 71% 42% 20% 21% 40% 33% 21%

BLUE = significantly higher than total sample RED =significantly lower than total sample

167

284

256

59

49

What do people think of the Fast-track Approvals Bill?

1,059

Respondents were told.

N (unweighted)

The Fast-track Approvals Bill is a draft law now being considered by Parliament.

If it becomes law in its current form, it will allow some developments to be fast-tracked. They will be able to bypass a suite of existing environmental laws (like the Resource Management, Conservation and the Wildlife acts) and public consultation processes.

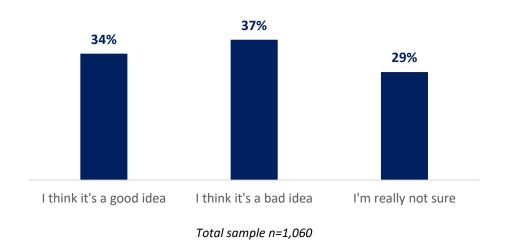
Proponents argue that this will make it easier to consent new infrastructure and other developments.

Opponents argue that the bill removes critical environmental protections and local communities' right to have a say on developments.

Opinion on the Fast-track Approvals Bill is evenly split.

- 34% (1,391,000 adults) think the Fast-track Approvals Bill is a good idea
- 37% (1,543,000 adults) think it is a bad idea
- **29%** (1,188,000 adults) were not sure.

Generally, what do you think about the Fast-track Approvals Bill?





The table below details differences across groups who think the Bill is a good or bad idea or who are not sure.

I think it's a good idea 53%		I think it's a bad 42%	idea	I'm really not sure 29%		
Males	47%	Females	44%	Under 35 year olds	41%	
Personal income		Personal income		Females	35%	
\$50k-\$150k	39%	\$30k-\$50k	48%	Asian	52%	
Personal income		Māori	50%	Pasifika	55%	
more than \$150k	65%			Living in Auckland	36%	
Household income						
more than \$200k	45%					
Living in Manawatu/						
Whanganui	46%					

Voters for parties in the governing coalition support the Bill. **70**% of ACT, **56**% of National and **55**% of New Zealand First voters think it is a *good idea*.

Generally, what do you				PARTY V	OTE 2023		
think about the Fast- track Approvals Bill?	ALL	ACT New Zealand	Green Party	Labour Party	National Party	New Zealand First	Te Pāti Māori
I think it's a good idea	34%	70%	6%	13%	56%	55%	6%
I think it's a bad idea	37%	13%	81%	63%	14%	17%	78%
I'm really not sure	29%	18%	13%	24%	30%	28%	16%
	•		•				•

N (unweighted) 1,059 100 167 284 256 59 49

BLUE = significantly higher than total sample RED =significantly lower than total sample



Concern about aspects of the Fast-track Approvals Bill

Respondents were asked whether they were concerned or not about certain aspects of the Fast-track Approvals Bill.

The biggest concern for **81%** (3,322,000 adults) was that activities that are currently prohibited (like dumping raw sewage into the ocean) could be allowed.

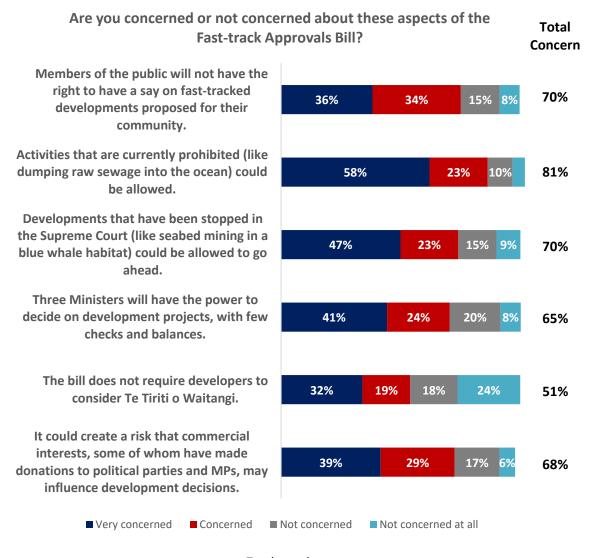
• **58**% (2,385,000 adults) were very concerned.

The second biggest concern for **70%** (2,847,000 adults) was developments that have been stopped in the Supreme Court (like seabed mining in a blue whale habitat) could be allowed to go ahead.

• **47%** (1,919,000 adults) were very concerned.

51% (2,076,000 adults) were concerned the bill does not require developers to consider Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

• **27**% (1,308,000 adults) were very concerned.





The table below details groups which are significantly more likely to be concerned or not concerned about different aspects of the Fast-track Approvals Bill.

Concern about aspects of	Significantly more likely to	Significantly more likely to no	ot be	
the Fast-track Approvals Bill	concerned ▲		concerned ▲	
	35-44 year olds	81%	45-54 year olds	31%
	Females	80%	55+ year olds	29%
Members of the public will	Māori	83%	Males	34%
not have the right to have a	Green Party voters	88%	Personal income more than	42%
say on fast-tracked	Labour Party voters	86%	\$150k	
developments proposed for their community.	Te Pāti Māori voters	90%	Household income more than \$150k	30%
			ACT voters	55%
			National voters	41%
	75+ year olds	89%	Males	21%
Activities that are currently	Females	87%	Personal income more than	35%
prohibited (like dumping	Personal income \$30k-\$50k	87%	\$150k	
raw sewage into the ocean)	Green Party voters	92%	Household income more than	21%
could be allowed.	Labour Party voters	92%	\$150k	
	Te Pāti Māori voters	97%	ACT voters	37%
	35-44 year olds	81%	55+ year olds	31%
Developments that have	Females	80%	Males	37%
been stopped in the	Māori	83%	Personal income more than	50%
Supreme Court (like seabed	Green Party voters	91%	\$150k	
mining in a blue whale	Labour Party voters	89%	Living in Northland	42%
habitat) could be allowed to	Te Pāti Māori voters	100%	ACT voters	57%
go ahead.			National voters	42%
			New Zealand First voters	49%
	35-44 year olds	80%	55+ year olds	34%
	Females	76%	Males	39%
	Māori Grand Bartu vatara	86%	Personal income more than	58%
Three Ministers will have	Green Party voters Labour Party voters	89% 90%	\$150k Household income more than	38%
the power to decide on	Te Pāti Māori voters	92%	\$150k	36%
development projects, with	re rati Maoii Voters	9270	Living in Gisborne/Hawkes	43%
few checks and balances.			Bay	4370
			Living in Canterbury	37%
			ACT voters	59%
			National voters	52%
	Under 35 year olds	59%	45-54 year olds	58%
	35-44 year olds	67%	55+ year olds	55%
	Females	62%	Males	56%
	Personal income \$30k-\$50k	59%	Personal income more than	67%
The bill describe	Māori	71%	\$150k	
The bill does not require	Green Party voters	84%	Household income more than	54%
developers to consider Te	Labour Party voters	78%	\$150k	
Tiriti o Waitangi.	Te Pāti Māori voters	95%	NZ European/Pākehā	49%
			Living in Canterbury	54%
			ACT voters	87%
			National voters	72%
			New Zealand First voters	71%



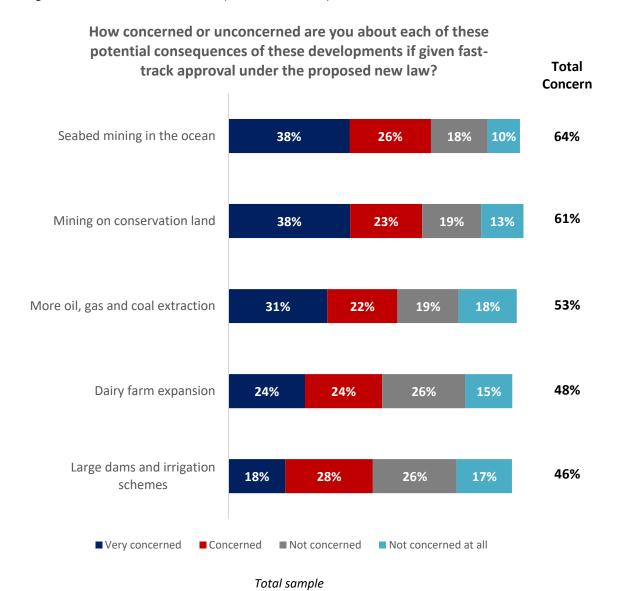
Concern about aspects of the Fast-track Approvals Bill	Significantly more likely to concerned ▲	Significantly more likely to <u>no</u> concerned ▲	<u>t</u> be		
It could create a risk that	35-44 year olds	78%	Males	33%	
commercial interests, some	Females	76%	Personal income more than		
of whom have made	Personal income \$30k-\$50k	76%	\$150k		
donations to political	Māori	79%	Household income more than	33%	
parties and MPs, may	Green Party voters	89%	\$150k		
influence development	Labour Party voters	88%	ACT voters	48%	
decisions.	Te Pāti Māori voters	95%	National voters	41%	



Concern about potential developments under the Fast-track Approvals Bill

Respondents were then asked their concern over potential consequences of certain developments if given fast-track approval under the proposed new law.

The biggest concern for **64%** (2,633,000 adults) was seabed mining in the ocean. Followed by mining on conservation land for **61%** (2,517,000 adults).





The table below details groups who are significantly more likely to be concerned or not concerned about potential consequences of certain developments if given fast-track approval under the proposed new law.

Concern about aspects of the Fast-track Approvals Bill	Significantly more likely t concerned ▲	to be	Significantly more likely to <u>not</u> be concerned ▲	9
11	25 44	7.40/	45 54 years also	260/
	35-44 year olds Females	74%	45-54 year olds	36% 38%
	Household less than \$20k	75% 80%	55+ year olds Males	40%
Seabed mining in the	Māori	77%	Personal income more than \$150k	53%
ocean	Green Party voters	89%	ACT voters	56%
	Labour Party voters	91%	National voters	52%
	Te Pāti Māori voters	96%	New Zealand First voters	57%
	Under 35 year olds	71%	55+ year olds	45%
	Females	72%	Males	43%
	Asian	72%	Personal income more than \$150k	64%
	Māori	76%	Household income more than \$150k	40%
Mining on	Green Party voters	89%	NZ European/Pākehā	37%
conservation land	Labour Party voters	88%	Living in Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough	55%
Conservation land	Te Pāti Māori voters	96%	Living in Wellington	43%
	Te rati Maori Voters	3070	ACT voters	68%
			National voters	55%
			New Zealand First voters	56%
	Under 35 year olds	64%	45-54 year olds	53%
	Females	65%	55+ year olds	51%
	Indian	69%	Males	50%
	Māori	72%	Personal income \$70k-\$100k	47%
More oil, gas and coal	Green Party voters	88%	Personal income more than \$150k	66%
extraction	Labour Party voters	86%	Household income more than \$150k	49%
CALIGOTI	Te Pāti Māori voters	99%	Living in Gisborne/Hawkes Bay	53%
	Te rati Maori Voters	3370	ACT voters	78%
			National voters	66%
			New Zealand First voters	70%
	Māori	68%	45-54 year olds	52%
	Living in	62%	Personal income \$70k- \$100k	51%
	Waikato/Coromandel	02/0	Asian	61%
Dairy farm expansion	Green Party voters	79%	Living in Bay of Plenty	54%
Zamy ramm expansion	Labour Party voters	75%	ACT voters	74%
	Te Pāti Māori voters	80%	National voters	68%
	Te rati Maori Voters	0070	New Zealand First voters	60%
	35-44 year olds	55%	45-54 year olds	60%
	Females	56%	55+ year olds	54%
	Māori	63%	Males	56%
	Green Party voters	77%	Personal income more than \$150k	72%
Large dams and	Labour Party voters	69%	Household income more than \$150k	59%
irrigation schemes	Te Pāti Māori voters	82%	Living in Gisborne/Hawkes Bay	66%
		32,3	Living in Manawatu/Whanganui	58%
			ACT voters	76%
			National voters	73%
			New Zealand First voters	73%



Prioritising mining developments

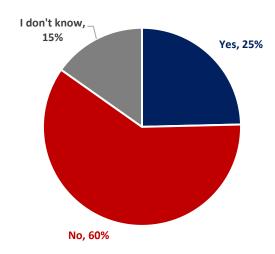
Respondents were told.

The Minister for Resources, Shane Jones, and one of three Ministers who would make fast-track approval decisions under the draft law, has said "... if there is a mining opportunity and it's impeded by a blind frog, goodbye, Freddie."

60% (2,480,000 adults) do not agree that developments like mining should be prioritised even if they mean the extinction of native species.

25% (1,015,000 adults) do think developments like mining should be prioritised.

Do you agree that developments like mining should be prioritised even if they mean the extinction of a native species?



Total sample n=1,056

There are few differences across demographic groups who believe developments like mining should be prioritised even if they mean the extinction of native species.

Yes 25%		No 60%		I don't know 15%	
Males	32%	Females	67%	Indian	35%
Personal income		Māori	73%		
more than \$150k	41%	Living in Otago	74%		



Voters for the current coalition government parties are more likely to agree developments like mining should be prioritised even if they mean the extinction of native species.

Do you agree that developments like mining should be prioritised even if they mean the extinction of a native species?		PARTY VOTE 2023					
	ALL	ACT New Zealand	Green Party	Labour Party	National Party	New Zealand First	Te Pāti Māori
Yes	25%	45%	8%	12%	35%	40%	4%
No	60%	47%	88%	78%	42%	41%	86%
I don't know	15%	8%	5%	10%	23%	19%	10%

N (unweighted)	1,056	99	167	284	254	58	49

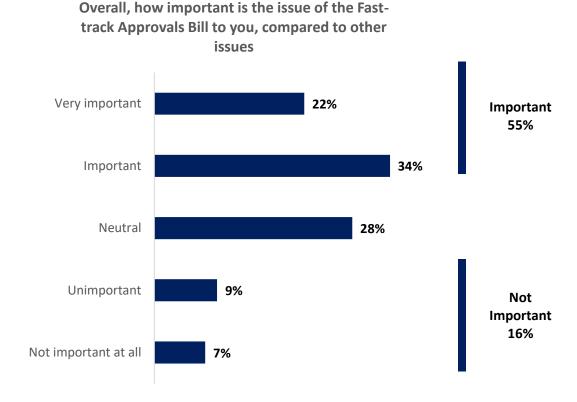
BLUE = significantly higher than total sample RED =significantly lower than total sample



How important is the Fast-track Approvals Bill issue

Considered in isolation from other issues the Fast-track Approvals Bill is considered an *important* issue to **55%** (2,282,000 adults).

• **22**% (887,000 adults) said it was very important.



Total sample n=1,053

There are few differences across demographic groups who are more likely to think that the Bill is *important* compared to other issues. The groups who are more likely to think it is important are:

- Personal income \$100k-\$150k 64%
- Household income less than \$20k 73%
- Māori 64%
- Pasifika 67%
- Living in Waikato/Coromandel 66%.

The groups who more likely to think it is *not important* are:

- Personal income \$50k-\$150k 21%
- Living in Canterbury 25%.



The Bill is seen as very important among opposition parties' voters. **37%** of Green Party, **36%** of Labour and **43%** of Te Pāti Māori voters say it is very important.

Overall, how important is the		PARTY VOTE 2023							
issue of the Fast-tracks Approval Bill to you, compared to other issues (e.g. cost of living, education, health)	ALL	ACT New Zealand	Green Party	Labour Party	National Party	New Zealand First	Te Pāti Māori		
Very important	22%	13%	37%	36%	10%	18%	43%		
Important	34%	40%	38%	35%	33%	25%	42%		
Neutral	28%	32%	17%	14%	39%	44%	7%		
Unimportant	9%	9%	5%	8%	14%	9%	0%		
Not important at all	7%	6%	4%	7%	4%	5%	7%		
TOTAL IMPORTANT	55%	53%	75%	71%	43%	43%	85%		
TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT	16%	15%	9%	15%	18%	14%	7 %		

BLUE = significantly higher than total sample RED =significantly lower than total sample

167

282

253

59

48

100

1,053

N (unweighted)



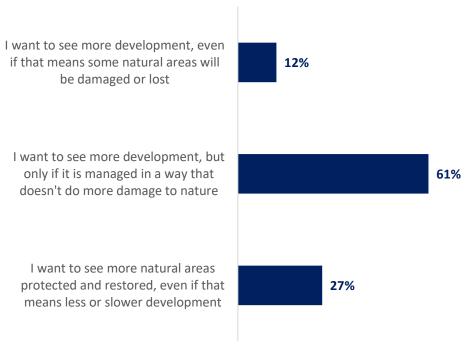
2. Vision for future of New Zealand

Overall, **61%** of respondents (2,509,000 adults) said they want to see more development, but only if it is managed in a way that doesn't do more damage to nature.

27% (1,110,000 adults) want to see more natural areas protected and restored, even if that means less or slower development.

12% (508,000 adults) want to see more development, even if that means some natural areas will be damaged or lost.

Which of these statements best matches your vision for the future of New Zealand?



Total sample n=1,055

Respondents could select only one of the three options.



The table below details differences across demographic groups on what best matches their vision for the future of New Zealand.

Which of these statements best matches your vision for the future of New Zealand?	Total Sample	Significantly more likely ▲			
I want to see more development, even if that means some natural areas will be damaged or lost	12%	45-54 year olds Males Personal income \$100k-\$150k Personal income more than \$150k Indian	21% 17% 17% 25%		
I want to see more development, but only if it is managed in a way that doesn't do more damage to nature	61%	75+ year olds Household income \$70k-\$100k Household income less than \$20k	75% 73% 41%		
I want to see more natural areas protected and restored, even if that means less or slower development	27%	Under 35 year olds Females Māori Pasifika	33% 35% 47% 39%		

ACT and New Zealand First voters are *more likely* to *want to see more development, even if that means some natural areas will be damaged or lost.* However, majorities of these parties' voters would like to see development managed in ways that do not more damage t nature: Act **54%**, New Zealand First **56%**.

71% of National voters want to see more development, but only if it is managed in a way that doesn't do more damage to nature.

Which of these statements		PARTY VOTE 2023						
Which of these statements best matches your vision for the future of New Zealand?	ALL	ACT New Zealand	Green Party	Labour Party	National Party	New Zealand First	Te Pāti Māori	
I want to see more development, even if that means some natural areas will be damaged or lost	12%	39%	5%	5%	19%	31%	0%	
I want to see more development, but only if it is managed in a way that doesn't do more damage to nature	61%	54%	46%	57%	71%	56%	46%	
I want to see more natural areas protected and restored, even if that means less or slower development	27%	7%	49%	38%	10%	13%	54%	

N (unweighted)	1,055	100	166	282	254	59		
BLUE = significantly higher than total sample RED = significantly lower than total sample								

49



Appendix 1 – Sample

Results are from a Horizon Research survey conducted between 20th and 25th May 2024. The total sample size was 1,060 adults, 18 years of age and over.

The maximum margin of error is ±3% (at the 95% confidence level). The data was weighted on education, ethnicity, region, personal income and Party Vote 2023 to match the adult population.

Sub-sample respondent counts and margins of error are shown below.

	All respondents		
	Count	Sub-sample margin of error	
TOTAL	1060	±3%	
GENDER			
Male	516	±4.3%	
Female	538	±4.3%	
Another gender	6		
AGE GROUP			
18-24 years	113	±9.2%	
25-34 years	209	±6.8%	
35-44 years	176	±7.4%	
45-54 years	174	±7.4%	
55-64 years	152	±7.9%	
65-74 years	131	±8.6%	
75 years or over	105	±9.6%	
ETHNIC GROUP			
Asian	82	±10.8%	
Indian	36	±16.3%	
Māori	206	±6.8%	
NZ European/ Pākehā	732	±3.6%	
Other European	66	±12.1%	
Pasifika	76	±11.2%	
Other	34	±16.8%	
PARTY VOTE 2023			
ACT New Zealand	100	±9.8%	
Green Party	167	±7.6%	
Labour Party	284	±5.8%	
National Party	256	±6.1%	
New Zealand First	59	±12.8%	
Te Pāti Māori	49	±14%	

Demographic tables results accompany this report.

Contact

For more information about this survey, please contact:

Julia Ord, telephone 027 706 8790, email julia.ord@horizonresearch.co.nz

Graeme Colman, telephone 021 84 85 76, email gcolman@horizonresearch.co.nz