

# GENERAL KNOWLEDGE POLL MAY 2019

**CLIENT**: The New Zealand Initiative

**POLL DATES**: Mon 13 to Tuesday 28 May 2019. The median response was

collected on Tue 21 May 2019.

**TARGET POPULATION:** New Zealand residents aged 18 or older.

**SAMPLE POPULATION:** New Zealand residents aged 18 or older who are contactable

on a landline or mobile phone.

**SAMPLE SIZE**: 1,000 respondents agreed to participate.

**SAMPLE SELECTION**: A random selection of 15,000 nationwide phone numbers.

**WEIGHTING**: The results are weighted to reflect the overall voting adult

population in terms of gender, age, and area.

**SAMPLE ERROR**: Based on this sample of 1,000 respondents, the maximum

sampling error (for a result of 50%) is +/- 3.1%, at the 95%

confidence level.

**CODE COMPLIANCE:** This poll was conducted in accordance with the Research

Association New Zealand Code of Practice and the

International Chamber of Commerce/European Society for Opinion and Market Research Code on Market and Social

Research.



### How many days does it take for the Earth to go around the sun?/ How long does it take for the Earth to go around the sun?

		Count	Col N %
How long does it take for the Earth to go around the sun?	Correct (365 days)	552	53%
	Incorrect	301	29%
	Unsure/refuse	192	18%
	Total	1046	100.0%

53% of respondents gave the correct answer. 29% gave an incorrect answer and 18% did not know.

The original version of the question asked specifically how many days. This was changed halfway through to better align with the same question asked internationally. The original version had 54% correctly answering and the revised version 52%.

		Gen	der
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
How long does it take for the Earth to go around the sun?	Correct (365 days)	44%	62%
	Incorrect	33%	25%
	Unsure/refuse	23%	14%
	Total	100%	100%

A large variation by gender.

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
How long does it take for the Earth to go around the	Correct (365 days)	62%	61%	54%	38%
sun?	Incorrect	22%	27%	28%	36%
	Unsure/refuse	15%	13%	18%	25%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Older respondents less likely to know the correct answer.



		Area Type		
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
How long does it take for the Earth to go around the sun?	Correct (365 days)	57%	53%	46%
	Incorrect	27%	27%	32%
	Unsure/refuse	16%	20%	21%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Rural respondents less likely to know the correct answer.

		Deprivation Decile			
		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10	
		Col %	Col %	Col %	
How long does it take for the Earth to go around	Correct (365 days)	66%	49%	47%	
the sun?	Incorrect	21%	31%	34%	
	Unsure/refuse	13%	20%	19%	
	Total	100%	100%	100%	

Respondents in the least deprived areas are more likely to know the correct answer.

		Was schooling in NZ or overseas?		
		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
How long does it take for the Earth to go around the sun?	Correct (365 days)	54%	52%	61%
	Incorrect	29%	32%	28%
	Unsure/refuse	17%	16%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Relatively few (under 60) respondents attended school both in New Zealand and overseas so results for that category has a very high margin of error.



### Do antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria?

		Count	Col %
Do antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria?	Yes	221	21%
	No (Correct)	705	67%
	Unsure/refuse	123	12%
	Total	1048	100%

67% of respondents correctly answered that antibiotics do not kill viruses.

		Gender		
		Female	Male	
		Col %	Col %	
Do antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria?	Yes	20%	23%	
	No (Correct)	69%	65%	
	Unsure/refuse	11%	12%	
	Total	100%	100%	

		Age Group			
		18-30 31-45 46-60 61			61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Do antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria?	Yes	34%	16%	17%	18%
	No (Correct)	52%	75%	74%	67%
	Unsure/refuse	14%	10%	9%	14%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

			Area Type	
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Do antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria?	Yes	21%	23%	20%
	No (Correct)	68%	66%	67%
	Unsure/refuse	11%	10%	14%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Do antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria?	Yes	15%	22%	28%
	No (Correct)	75%	67%	57%
	Unsure/refuse	10%	11%	14%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

			5	
		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Do antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria?	Yes	21%	20%	38%
	No (Correct)	70%	68%	52%
	Unsure/refuse	9%	12%	9%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



### Did the earliest humans live at the same time as dinosaurs?

		Count	Col %
Did the earliest humans live at the same time as dinosaurs?	Yes	155	15%
	No (Correct)	739	70%
	Unsure/refuse	154	15%
	Total	1048	100%

70% of respondents correctly answered that the earliest humans (around three millions years ago) did not live at the same time as dinosaurs (died out 66 million years ago).

		Gen	der
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
Did the earliest humans live at the same time as dinosaurs?	Yes	16%	13%
	No (Correct)	66%	75%
	Unsure/refuse	18%	12%
	Total	100%	100%

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Did the earliest humans live at the same time as	Yes	11%	16%	15%	17%
dinosaurs?	No (Correct)	77%	75%	70%	63%
	Unsure/refuse	11%	10%	16%	20%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type			
		Metro	Provincial	Rural	
		Col %	Col %	Col %	
Did the earliest humans live at the same time as dinosaurs?	Yes	15%	18%	13%	
	No (Correct)	72%	71%	67%	
	Unsure/refuse	13%	11%	20%	
	Total	100%	100%	100%	



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Did the earliest humans live at the same time as	Yes	14%	15%	15%
dinosaurs?	No (Correct)	79%	67%	70%
	Unsure/refuse	7%	18%	15%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Did the earliest humans live at the same time as dinosaurs?	Yes	16%	15%	11%
	No (Correct)	71%	76%	83%
	Unsure/refuse	13%	9%	6%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



### In what year was the Treaty of Waitangi first signed?

		Count	Col %
In what year was the Treaty of Waitangi first signed?	1840	333	32%
	Incorrect	388	37%
	Unsure/refuse	327	31%
	Total	1048	100%

Only 32% of respondents knew the Treaty of Waitangi was first signed in 1840.

		Gender		
		Female	Male	
		Col %	Col %	
In what year was the Treaty of Waitangi first signed?	1840	29%	35%	
	Incorrect	35%	39%	
	Unsure/refuse	36%	26%	
	Total	100%	100%	

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
In what year was the Treaty of Waitangi first signed?	1840	23%	30%	32%	39%
	Incorrect	41%	39%	35%	33%
	Unsure/refuse	35%	30%	32%	28%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type			
		Metro	Provincial	Rural	
		Col %	Col %	Col %	
In what year was the Treaty of Waitangi first signed?	1840	32%	33%	31%	
	Incorrect	37%	35%	39%	
	Unsure/refuse	31%	32%	31%	
	Total	100%	100%	100%	



De	priv	ation	Deci	le

		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
In what year was the Treaty of Waitangi first signed?	1840	35%	31%	30%
	Incorrect	41%	35%	37%
	Unsure/refuse	24%	33%	33%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Was schooling in NZ or overseas?

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		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
In what year was the Treaty of Waitangi first signed?	1840	35%	19%	27%
	Incorrect	38%	41%	34%
	Unsure/refuse	27%	40%	39%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

David Farrar Director Curia Market Research

07 June 2019



# What is the capital of Australia?

		Count	Col %
Capital of Australia	Canberra	773	81%
	Any other answer	94	10%
	Unsure/refuse	91	9%
	Total	958	100%

81% of respondents gave the correct answer. 10% gave an incorrect answer and 9% did not know.

100%

		Gender		
		Female	Male	
		Col %	Col %	
Capital of Australia	Canberra	80%	81%	
	Any other answer	11%	9%	
	Unsure/refuse	9%	10%	

Total

		Age Group				
		18-30 31-45 46-60 61+				
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %	
Capital of Australia	Canberra	76%	83%	86%	78%	
	Any other answer	14%	8%	9%	8%	
	Unsure/refuse	9%	8%	5%	14%	
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	

100%

		Area Type		
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Capital of Australia	Canberra	82%	80%	79%
	Any other answer	9%	13%	10%
	Unsure/refuse	10%	8%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Capital of Australia	Canberra	89%	79%	76%
	Any other answer	6%	10%	15%
	Unsure/refuse	6%	11%	9%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

### Was schooling in NZ or overseas?

		3		
		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Capital of Australia	Canberra	83%	86%	84%
	Any other answer	11%	8%	5%
	Unsure/refuse	7%	6%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Relatively few (under 60) respondents attended school both in New Zealand and overseas so results for that category has a very high margin of error.



### Was Winston Churchill a real or fictional character?

		Count	Col %
Was Winston Churchill real or fictional?	Real	899	90%
	Fictional	23	2%
	Unsure/refuse	79	8%
	Total	1002	100%

90% of respondents correctly answered that Winston Churchill was real. 2% thought he was fictional and 8% did not know.

		Gender	
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
Was Winston Churchill real or fictional?	Real	89%	90%
	Fictional	2%	2%
	Unsure/refuse	8%	7%
	Total	100%	100%

		Age Group			
		18-30 31-45 46-60 61+			61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Was Winston Churchill real or fictional?	Real	87%	91%	94%	88%
	Fictional	5%	2%	2%	1%
	Unsure/refuse	8%	7%	5%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type		
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Was Winston Churchill real or fictional?	Real	88%	92%	92%
	Fictional	3%	2%	2%
	Unsure/refuse	9%	6%	7%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Was Winston Churchill real or fictional?	Real	91%	89%	90%
	Fictional	3%	2%	1%
	Unsure/refuse	6%	8%	9%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Was Winston Churchill real or fictional?	Real	92%	95%	100%
	Fictional	3%	2%	0%
	Unsure/refuse	5%	3%	0%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



# If a car travels at a constant speed of 40 kilometres per hours, how far would it travel in 45 minutes?

		Count	Col %
Distance in 45 mins at 40 km/hr	30 kms	478	48%
	Any other answer	225	23%
	Unsure/refuse	298	30%
	Total	1001	100%

48% of respondents correctly answered that a car would travel 30 kms in 45 minutes at 40 km/hr. 23% had an incorrect answer and 30% were unsure.

		Gender	
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
Distance in 45 mins at 40 km/hr	30 kms	41%	56%
	Any other answer	22%	23%
	Unsure/refuse	37%	21%
	Total	100%	100%

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Distance in 45 mins at 40 km/hr	30 kms	56%	54%	47%	36%
	Any other answer	17%	21%	26%	26%
	Unsure/refuse	27%	25%	27%	39%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type		
		Metro Provincial Rural		
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Distance in 45 mins at 40 km/hr	30 kms	50%	44%	47%
	Any other answer	20%	26%	23%
	Unsure/refuse	30%	30%	30%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		2-6-11-2-2-11-2		
		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Distance in 45 mins at 40 km/hr	30 kms	65%	43%	39%
	Any other answer	16%	23%	30%
	Unsure/refuse	20%	34%	31%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

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		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Distance in 45 mins at 40 km/hr	30 kms	50%	48%	43%
	Any other answer	24%	18%	31%
	Unsure/refuse	26%	34%	26%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



# Imagine you put \$100 in a savings account that paid 2% interest. Assuming there were no fees or tax, how much money would be in the account after one year?

		Count	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 1 year	\$102	568	57%
	Any other answer	183	18%
	Unsure/refuse	248	25%
	Total	999	100%

57% correctly calculated \$102. 18% had an incorrect answer and 25% were unsure.

		Gender	
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 1 year	\$102	49%	66%
	Any other answer	21%	16%
	Unsure/refuse	31%	18%
	Total	100%	100%

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 1 year	\$102	59%	62%	61%	46%
	Any other answer	20%	17%	16%	20%
	Unsure/refuse	21%	21%	23%	33%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type		
		Metro Provincial Rural		
		Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 1 year	\$102	59%	56%	54%
	Any other answer	19%	18%	17%
	Unsure/refuse	23%	26%	29%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 1 year	\$102	69%	55%	45%
	Any other answer	13%	18%	29%
	Unsure/refuse	18%	27%	26%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

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		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 1 year	\$102	59%	59%	58%
	Any other answer	19%	17%	29%
	Unsure/refuse	22%	24%	13%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



# If you left that \$100 in the same account for five years, how much money would be in the account after five years out of a) less than \$110, b) \$110 and c) more than \$110?

		Count	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 5 years	Less than \$110	54	5%
	\$110	202	20%
	More than \$110	388	39%
	Unsure/refuse	355	36%
	Total	999	100%

39% correctly answered there would be more than \$110 after five years.

		Gender		
		Female	Male	
		Col %	Col %	
\$100 at 2% interest after 5 years	Less than \$110	6%	5%	
	\$110	19%	22%	
	More than \$110	33%	46%	
	Unsure/refuse	43%	27%	
	Total	100%	100%	

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 5	Less than \$110	4%	6%	5%	6%
years	\$110	18%	22%	26%	15%
	More than \$110	42%	41%	41%	33%
	Unsure/refuse	36%	31%	28%	46%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%



		Area Type		
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 5 years	Less than \$110	5%	3%	8%
	\$110	19%	21%	20%
	More than \$110	39%	39%	38%
	Unsure/refuse	36%	37%	33%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 5 years	Less than \$110	4%	5%	8%
	\$110	16%	21%	21%
	More than \$110	50%	36%	33%
	Unsure/refuse	30%	37%	37%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

### Was schooling in NZ or overseas?

		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
\$100 at 2% interest after 5 years	Less than \$110	6%	1%	9%
	\$110	22%	16%	22%
	More than \$110	40%	44%	38%
	Unsure/refuse	32%	39%	32%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

David Farrar Director Curia Market Research

26 June 2019



### Which country was the first to give all women the right to vote?

		Count	Col %
First country to give women the vote	NZ	823	85%
	Any other answer	33	3%
	Unsure/refuse	116	12%
	Total	972	100%

85% of respondents gave the correct answer. 3% gave an incorrect answer and 12% did not know.

		Gender	
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
First country to give women the vote	NZ	84%	86%
	Any other answer	3%	3%
	Unsure/refuse	13%	11%
	Total	100%	100%

		Age Group			
		18-30 31-45 46-60 61+			
	Col % Col % Col % C				Col %
First country to give women the vote	NZ	79%	89%	84%	86%
	Any other answer	5%	2%	4%	3%
	Unsure/refuse	16%	9%	12%	12%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

			Area Type	
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
First country to give women the vote	NZ	86%	84%	82%
	Any other answer	3%	3%	5%
	Unsure/refuse	11%	13%	13%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
First country to give women the vote	NZ	89%	85%	72%
	Any other answer	2%	4%	6%
	Unsure/refuse	10%	11%	21%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

#### Was schooling in NZ or overseas?

			5	
		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
First country to give women the vote	NZ	88%	74%	80%
	Any other answer	3%	9%	6%
	Unsure/refuse	9%	17%	14%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Relatively few (under 60) respondents attended school both in New Zealand and overseas so results for that category has a very high margin of error.



### Can you name the seven continents?

		Count	Col %
Can name the seven	Correct	444	44%
continents	Incorrect	335	33%
	Unsure/refuse	228	23%
	Total	1008	100%

44% of respondents could correctly name the seven continents. 33% got them incorrect and 23% were unsure.

		Gender	
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
Can name the seven	Correct	39%	50%
continents	Incorrect	35%	32%
	Unsure/refuse	26%	18%
	Total	100%	100%

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Can name the seven	Correct	49%	50%	42%	36%
continents	Incorrect	27%	31%	35%	39%
	Unsure/refuse	24%	19%	23%	25%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type		
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Can name the seven	Correct	49%	38%	39%
continents	Incorrect	32%	32%	37%
	Unsure/refuse	18%	30%	24%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Can name the seven	Correct	57%	39%	33%
continents	Incorrect	27%	37%	36%
	Unsure/refuse	17%	24%	31%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

		tras series in the stressas.		
	NZ Overseas		Both	
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Can name the seven	Correct	43%	59%	43%
continents	Incorrect	35%	27%	45%
	Unsure/refuse	22%	15%	12%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



# In the sentence "Their house is large", how would you spell their?

		Count	Col %
Spelt "their" correctly	Correct	809	80%
	Incorrect	109	11%
	Unsure/refuse	89	9%
	Total	1008	100%

80% of respondents could correctly spell "their" given its context.

		Gender		
		Female	Male	
		Col %	Col %	
Spelt "their" correctly	Correct	83%	77%	
	Incorrect	8%	14%	
	Unsure/refuse	9%	9%	
	Total	100%	100%	

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Spelt "their" correctly	Correct	80%	86%	80%	76%
	Incorrect	14%	6%	12%	11%
	Unsure/refuse	7%	7%	8%	13%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type		
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Spelt "their" correctly	Correct	82%	82%	74%
	Incorrect	10%	9%	14%
	Unsure/refuse	8%	8%	12%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Spelt "their" correctly	Correct	86%	79%	70%
	Incorrect	6%	11%	22%
	Unsure/refuse	8%	10%	8%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

		g		
		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Spelt "their" correctly	Correct	83%	83%	70%
	Incorrect	11%	6%	18%
	Unsure/refuse	5%	11%	12%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



# Was the Native Land Court established in New Zealand to return land to Maori or to make it easier for Pakeha to purchase land?

		Count	Col %
Purpose of Native Land Court	Return land to Maori	353	35%
	Make easier for Pakeha to purchase land	338	34%
	Unsure/refuse	317	31%
	Total	1008	100%

Only 34% correctly knew the purpose of the establishment of the Native Land Court was to make it easier for Pakeha to purchase land. 35% thought it was to return land to Maori and 31% were unsure.

		Gender	
		Female	Male
		Col %	Col %
Purpose of Native Land Court	Return land to Maori	37%	32%
	Make easier for Pakeha to purchase land	32%	36%
	Unsure/refuse	31%	32%
	Total	100%	100%

		Age Group			
		18-30	31-45	46-60	61+
		Col %	Col %	Col %	Col %
Purpose of Native Land Court	Return land to Maori	38%	35%	38%	29%
	Make easier for Pakeha to purchase land	27%	36%	37%	34%
	Unsure/refuse	35%	29%	25%	36%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

		Area Type		
		Metro	Provincial	Rural
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Purpose of Native Land Court	Return land to Maori	35%	36%	33%
	Make easier for Pakeha to purchase land	33%	33%	35%
	Unsure/refuse	32%	30%	31%
	Total	100%	100%	100%



		Deciles 1 - 3	Deciles 4 - 7	Deciles 8 - 10
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Purpose of Native Land Court	Return land to Maori	34%	35%	35%
	Make easier for Pakeha to purchase land	35%	33%	34%
	Unsure/refuse	30%	32%	31%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Was schooling in NZ or overseas?

		NZ	Overseas	Both
		Col %	Col %	Col %
Purpose of Native Land Court	Return land to Maori	37%	34%	15%
	Make easier for Pakeha to purchase land	35%	27%	33%
	Unsure/refuse	27%	40%	52%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

David Farrar Director Curia Market Research

11 July 2019