

MEDIA RELEASE

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Extra \$20 in pocket will make a difference to some, but not all Kiwis

An extra \$20 a week via tax cuts would make a difference for 51% of New Zealanders, Research New Zealand polling shows.

Research New Zealand director Emanuel Kalafatelis said the poll found tax cuts, which delivered \$20 a week, would make a difference for 51% of Kiwis. He says the poll showed that this was more likely the case for females (57%) than males (44%).

“We found there was little difference in opinion among age groups, but opinion was of course divided by household income. The more people earned the less difference an extra \$20 was going to make.”

People who didn't believe an extra \$20 a week would make a difference to them were asked what would.

“Interestingly, almost one-quarter of New Zealanders (23%) felt only an extra \$50 a week via tax cuts would make a difference for them.”

Polling was conducted between 12 February and 18 February before Finance Minister Michael Cullen announced that tax cuts would be included in the May budget.

The Research New Zealand poll of 501 people aged 15 and over was conducted by telephone between the 12 and 18 February. The maximum margin of error is +/- 4.7 % (at the 95% confidence level). The data has been weighted to ensure it is an accurate representation of New Zealand's general population. The poll was not taken on behalf of any organisation but as part of Research New Zealand's monthly survey of attitudes and opinions.

Participants were asked: *The Government has signalled that there will be tax cuts in the next budget. Would an extra \$20 a week make a difference for you or your family? IF 'NO' ASK: What about...READ ... \$30 a week, \$40, \$50, etc.*

Table 1: Impact of tax cuts (by gender)

The Government has signalled that there will be tax cuts in the next budget. Would an extra \$20 a week make a difference for you or your family? **IF 'NO' ASK:** *What about...READ ... \$30 a week, \$40, \$50, etc.*

	Base =	Total	Male	Female
		501	250	251
		%	%	%
Yes, \$20 a week would make a difference		51	➤44	➤57
\$30 a week		13	14	12
\$40		9	12	6
\$50		7	8	7
\$60, or		3	3	3
More than \$60 a week		13	15	10
Don't know		4	4	4
Refused		0	0	0
Total		100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

➤Denotes a statistically significant difference between sub-groups, shading denotes significant difference relative to the total sample.

Table 2: Impact of tax cuts (by age)

The Government has signalled that there will be tax cuts in the next budget. Would an extra \$20 a week make a difference for you or your family? **IF 'NO' ASK:** *What about...READ ... \$30 a week, \$40, \$50, etc.*

	Base =	Total	15 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60+
		501	76	76	111	108	130
		%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, \$20 a week would make a difference		51	54	52	49	44	52
\$30 a week		13	18	8	9	13	15
\$40		9	7	15	8	10	7
\$50		7	8	9	9	7	3
\$60, or		3	4	0	1	6	2
More than \$60 a week		13	8	14	20	18	7
Don't know		4	2	1	3	2	13
Refused		0	0	0	1	0	1
Total		100	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 3: Impact of tax cuts (by household income)

The Government has signalled that there will be tax cuts in the next budget. Would an extra \$20 a week make a difference for you or your family? **IF 'NO' ASK: What about...READ ... \$30 a week, \$40, \$50, etc.**

	Total	Under \$40,000	40,000 - \$69,999	\$70,000 plus	Don't know/refused
Base =	501	167	113	174	47
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, \$20 a week would make a difference	51	62	47	37	62
\$30 a week	13	14	16	10	14
\$40	9	5	10	15	2
\$50	7	4	7	12	4
\$60, or	3	2	3	3	7
More than \$60 a week	13	7	16	19	5
Don't know	4	6	3	3	8
Refused	0	0	0	1	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

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