

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**23 April 2008**

### **Strong support for ANZAC Day as national day**

Nearly 40% of Kiwis say that ANZAC Day should be New Zealand's national day rather than Waitangi Day, Research New Zealand polling shows.

The poll found that while 52% of people said that Waitangi Day should remain our national day, 38% felt ANZAC Day would be more appropriate.

Research New Zealand director Emanuel Kalafatelis said the poll shows that for a large group of New Zealanders it is ANZAC Day that makes them feel proud to be Kiwis.

"ANZAC Day is now moving from being a day of personal remembrance to a day of shared nationhood.

"On ANZAC Day many New Zealanders feel a sense of national identity and a shared past, particularly younger Kiwis. We found 46% of 15 to 29 year-olds felt ANZAC Day was our most appropriate national day, the largest group among those we polled," he said.

Mr Kalafatelis said the poll supports the anecdotal evidence which suggests that ANZAC Day was very relevant for young New Zealanders who are, in increasing numbers, attending ANZAC Day services both here and overseas.

He said males (42%) were more likely than females (33%) to feel that ANZAC Day would be an appropriate national day.

Research New Zealand polling was conducted between 14 April and 22 April.

*The Research New Zealand poll of 501 people aged 15 and over was conducted by telephone between the 14 and 22 April. 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:** *Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?*

**Table 1: Should ANZAC Day be New Zealand's official 'National Day' (by gender)**

*Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?*

	Total	Male	Female
Base =	501	250	251
	%	%	%
Yes	38	42	33
No	52	48	56
Other	2	2	2
No opinion/Don't care	5	5	5
Don't know/Refused	3	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

**Table 2: Should ANZAC Day be New Zealand's official 'National Day' (by age)**

*Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?*

	Total	15 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60+
Base =	501	77	95	92	86	151
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	38	44	37	31	30	42
No	52	48	49	58	58	50
Other	2	1	2	3	4	2
No opinion/Don't care	5	3	11	5	4	4
Don't know/Refused	3	4	1	3	5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

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