

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Kiwis concerned about job security**

Nearly one in four New Zealand workers are worried about their jobs and the majority are not expecting a pay rise in the next year, the latest Research New Zealand polling shows.

Research New Zealand Director Emanuel Kalafatelis said that 24 percent of those in paid employment did not believe their job was secure, while 73 percent felt their employment was safe.

“This result indicates a high level of concern about job security when you consider we have had an economy characterised by historically low levels of unemployment, and significant skill and labour shortages for a number of years,” Mr Kalafatelis said.

The poll also showed that households earning less than \$40,000, and younger workers were feeling the most insecure, Mr Kalafatelis said.

“In households earning less than \$40,000 a year nearly a third of people (33 percent) did not feel that their job was secure compared with 18 percent of those earning \$70,000 or more a year,” Mr Kalafatelis said.

Younger workers aged 15 to 29 were also feeling less secure, with 31 percent saying they did not feel their job was secure.

The most bullish group of workers was aged between 30 and 39, 13 percent of whom were not confident about their job security, compared with 86 percent who were.

When asked if they were expecting a pay rise in the next 12 months, 58 percent of workers said they were not expecting a pay rise in the next 12 months, with 39 percent expecting more in their pay packets, Mr Kalafatelis said.

Lower income households were least likely to expect a pay rise with 67 percent of workers earning less than \$40,000 saying they did not expect a pay rise in the next year.

Workers aged 30 to 39 were the most confident of a pay rise, with 56 percent of those polled expecting a boost to their pay packets in the next 12 months.

Research New Zealand polling was conducted between 10 November and 13 November.



The Research New Zealand poll of 500 people aged 15 and over was conducted by telephone between the 10 and 13 November. The maximum margin of error is +/- 4.6 % (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.

### **Detailed results for job security**

**Respondents were asked:** *Given the economic downturn and reported predictions of rising unemployment, do you feel that your job is secure?*

**Table 1: Opinions with regard to job security, by age**

*Given the economic downturn and reported predictions of rising unemployment, do you feel that your job is secure?*

	Sub sample	15 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60+
Base =	345*	56	62	101	76	50
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, I feel confident	73	67	86	69	75	63
No, I do not feel confident	24	31	13	28	20	26
Don't know	3	2	1	2	5	12
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

\*Sub-sample based on respondents who work.

**Table 2: Opinions with regard to job security, by household income**

*Given the economic downturn and reported predictions of rising unemployment, do you feel that your job is secure?*

	Sub sample	Under \$40,000	40,000 - \$69,999	\$70,000 plus	Don't know/refused
Base=	345*	84	94	144	23
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, I feel confident	73	58	73	80	79
No, I do not feel confident	24	33	26	18	21
Don't know	3	9	1	3	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

\*Sub-sample based on respondents who work.



## **Detailed results for expectations of pay rise**

**Respondents were asked:** *Given the reported economic downturn do you expect a pay rise in the next 12 months?*

**Table 3: Expectation of a pay rise, by age**

*Given the reported economic downturn do you expect a pay rise in the next 12 months?*

	Sub sample	15 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60+
Base =	388*	67	61	101	80	89
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	39	42	56	38	31	27
No	58	55	43	62	65	62
Don't know	3	3	1	0	4	11
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding

\*Sub-sample based on respondents who work.

**Table 4: Expectation of a pay rise, by household income**

*Given the reported economic downturn do you expect a pay rise in the next 12 months?*

	Sub sample	Under \$40,000	40,000 - \$69,999	\$70,000 plus	Don't know/refused
Base =	388*	113	94	146	32
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	39	26	48	42	43
No	58	67	50	53	54
Don't know	3	6	2	2	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

\*Sub-sample based on respondents who work.

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