



Should our National Day be moved to ANZAC Day and should they both be 'Mondayised'?

The Waitangi Day celebrations on the Treaty Grounds at Waitangi have for many years become a focus for demonstrations, particularly against the Prime Minister of the Day. This year, for example, the Prime Minister decided to depart early without attempting to deliver his Waitangi Address.

Concurrently with the debate about whether our National Day should be moved to ANZAC day, to avoid making Waitangi the focus of the celebrations, it has been discussed whether Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day should be 'Mondayised' (i.e. where these days fall on a Saturday or Sunday, they should be moved to the nearest Monday, and become a public holiday). In 2011, for example, both days fell on a weekend, depriving New Zealanders of two public holidays.

Questions to establish the views of New Zealanders 18 years and over on these two issues were included in the Research New Zealand February poll.

There is not a great deal of support for changing New Zealand's National Day to ANZAC Day, with 60 percent of participants in the poll opposing the suggestion and only 30 percent agreeing with it.

These views were more or less identical throughout the sample, irrespective of gender, age ethnicity, location or income.

"This is a pretty conclusive result, and the proposal to make ANZAC Day our National Day seems to be dead in the water," said Research New Zealand Director, Emanuel Kalafatelis.

On the other hand, two-thirds of participants in the poll agreed with the suggestion to 'Mondayise' Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day and 28 percent opposed it. Support for the proposal varied quite strongly between age groups. The suggestion was particularly well supported in the age group 18-34 years, at 79 percent; falling to 69 percent in the age group 35-54 years; and falling again to 54 percent in the age group 55 years and over.

Other groups to have high levels of agreement with the proposal were Māori/Pacific people (82 percent) and those living in the Lower/Central North Island (77 percent).

"If this proposal does not proceed, it will not be because it is not supported by the public," said Research New Zealand Director, Emanuel Kalafatelis.



The Research New Zealand poll of 490 people aged 18 and over was conducted by telephone on 15-23rd February 2012. The maximum margin of error for the sample as a whole 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 organization, but as part of Research New Zealand's monthly survey of attitudes and opinions.

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Table 1:

Q22. The next two questions are about Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day. Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?

Base* =	Total	Male	Female
	490	247	243
	%	%	%
Strongly disagree	24	22	25
Disagree	36	34	37
Neutral	7	6	7
Agree	14	15	12
Strongly agree	16	18	14
Don't know	4	4	4
Refused	1	0	1
Total	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.

Table 2:

Q22. The next two questions are about Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day. Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?

Base* =	Total	18-34 years	35 to 54 years	55 years and over
	490	83	178	229
	%	%	%	%
Strongly disagree	24	18	25	26
Disagree	36	41	34	32
Neutral	7	5	7	8
Agree	14	17	12	12
Strongly agree	16	12	17	19
Don't know	4	6	4	2
Refused	1	1	1	0
Total	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.



Table 3:

Q22. The next two questions are about Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day. Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?

Base* =	Total 490 %	NZ		
		European/Pakeha 349 %	Maori/Pacific 59 %	Other 82 %
Strongly disagree	24	22	31	22
Disagree	36	37	29	36
Neutral	7	7	3	8
Agree	14	13	17	14
Strongly agree	16	17	16	12
Don't know	4	3	2	8
Refused	1	0	2	0
Total	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.

Table 4:

Q22. The next two questions are about Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day. Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?

Base* =	Total 490 %	Upper North Island 215 %	Lower/Central North Island		South Island 167 %
			Island 108 %	Island	
Strongly disagree	24	23	23		24
Disagree	36	37	39		31
Neutral	7	5	8		8
Agree	14	15	14		12
Strongly agree	16	16	13		18
Don't know	4	3	3		6
Refused	1	1	0		0
Total	100	100	100		100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.



Table 5:

Q22. The next two questions are about Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day. Although New Zealand's official 'National Day' is Waitangi Day, do you feel that ANZAC Day would be a more appropriate choice?

	Total	Under \$40,000	At least \$40,000 but less than \$80,000	\$80,000 or more	Don't know/refused
Base* =	490	164	130	159	37
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly disagree	24	16	25	30	26
Disagree	36	38	34	35	33
Neutral	7	9	7	5	2
Agree	14	14	14	11	23
Strongly agree	16	18	19	13	6
Don't know	4	4	1	6	2
Refused	1	0	0	0	8
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.

Table 6:

Q23. There has been a suggestion that if Waitangi Day or Anzac Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, workers should get the Monday off as a paid public holiday. Do you agree or disagree with this suggestion?

	Total	Male	Female
Base* =	490	247	243
	%	%	%
Agree	67	69	66
Disagree	28	27	29
Don't know	5	4	5
Refused	0	0	1
Total	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.

Table 7:

Q23. There has been a suggestion that if Waitangi Day or Anzac Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, workers should get the Monday off as a paid public holiday. Do you agree or disagree with this suggestion?

	Total	18-34 years	35 to 54 years	55 years and over
Base* =	490	83	178	229
	%	%	%	%
Agree	67	79	69	54
Disagree	28	14	28	39
Don't know	5	5	3	7
Refused	0	1	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.



Table 8:

Q23. There has been a suggestion that if Waitangi Day or Anzac Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, workers should get the Monday off as a paid public holiday. Do you agree or disagree with this suggestion?

Base* =	Total 490 %	NZ		
		European/Pakeha 349 %	Maori/Pacific 59 %	Other 82 %
Agree	67	61	82	77
Disagree	28	33	11	21
Don't know	5	5	5	2
Refused	0	0	2	0
Total	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.

Table 9:

Q23. There has been a suggestion that if Waitangi Day or Anzac Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, workers should get the Monday off as a paid public holiday. Do you agree or disagree with this suggestion?

Base* =	Total 490 %	NZ		
		Upper North Island 215 %	Lower/Central North Island 108 %	South Island 167 %
Agree	67	68	77	60
Disagree	28	28	19	34
Don't know	5	3	4	7
Refused	0	1	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.

Table 10:

Q23. There has been a suggestion that if Waitangi Day or Anzac Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, workers should get the Monday off as a paid public holiday. Do you agree or disagree with this suggestion?

Base* =	Total 490 %	Income			
		Under \$40,000 164 %	At least \$40,000 but less than \$80,000 130 %	\$80,000 or more 159 %	Don't know/refused 37 %
Agree	67	69	70	64	65
Disagree	28	26	28	31	21
Don't know	5	5	2	5	9
Refused	0	0	0	0	5
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*Unweighted base.

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