

Comparing party policies on inequality: How will you vote on September 23rd?

Part 1: Three Immediate Ambitions

Income for all that provides the necessities of life through a Living Wage and fairer income support							
EN Immediate asks	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
A Living Wage	Reform pay equity law	Pay all core public service workers the Living Wage Raise the minimum wage to \$16.50 per hour and abolish the youth wage	Raise the minimum wage to \$17.75 per hour & abolish the youth wage Require the public sector to achieve pay equity by 2020 Require statistics about pay rates for men & women to be published	Raise the minimum wage to \$20 per hour and abolish the youth wage	Increase the minimum wage to a Living Wage	No policies	Increase pay transparency
Fairer income support (see also tax & Income policies)	Increase payments for accommodation costs Increase payments for students accommodation costs Increase Working for Families payments	Increase Working for Families payments Pay \$60 per week to all families with babies and toddlers Pay a winter energy benefit to people on a benefit or NZ Super Increase payments for accommodation costs	Increase benefits by 20% Increase the amount people can earn before their benefit is cut End penalties & sanctions for beneficiaries Restore allowances to allow beneficiaries to study Provide a case manager for every beneficiary Extend the \$72 per week payment for working parents to all low income families Extend the \$2,200 payment for working parents of newborns to all families Increase Working for Families payments	Review the Working For Families tax credit system Remove GST from food & residential rates Adjust benefits with inflation Require greater parental responsibility from people receiving benefits Apply more scrutiny to people moving from unemployment benefit to the sickness benefit	Adjust all benefits to reflect the cost of living Introduce a universal student allowance & increase the accommodation benefit Remove GST from milk & fresh fruit & vegetables	Impose lifetime limits on sole parent and unemployment benefits Impose spending controls on parents who have additional children while on a benefit Increase support for people with physical or mental conditions Require all welfare recipients who can work to either work or participate in full-time training Cut Working for Families payments to high income earners	Extend the \$72 per week payment for working parents to all low income families Pay \$200 per week to all families with young children and to everyone aged 18 - 23
Overall result for incomes	1	4.5	6	3	4	0	2

A government-funded house-building programme to help address the housing crisis and provide everybody with healthy, affordable homes with long-term tenure							
	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Government-funded housing-building programme	<p>Continue to sell state houses to non-government housing providers</p> <p>Continue to fund community-based housing initiatives to prevent homelessness</p> <p>Build 5,200 new social homes in Auckland</p> <p>Continue to build new social houses in Wellington, Christchurch & Hamilton</p> <p>Continue to fund the expansion of emergency housing</p>	<p>Change Housing New Zealand from a corporation to a public service department</p> <p>Stop the sale of state houses</p> <p>Build at least 1,000 state houses a year until demand is met</p>	<p>Stop the sale of state houses</p> <p>Build 5,000 homes to sell to non-government housing providers</p> <p>Build 450 more state houses</p> <p>Fund non-goverment organisations with government-backed investment bonds</p> <p>Cover the entire cost of emergency accommodation</p>	<p>Stop the sale of state houses</p> <p>Support local councils to provide more pensioner housing</p> <p>Require councils to have a social housing plan</p>	<p>Support gretaer iwi and community ownership of social housing</p> <p>Build 90,000 houses by 2022 for social housing and private sale</p> <p>Cap social housing remts</p> <p>Aim to end homelessness by 2020</p> <p>Establish a minister for Māori & Pasifika Housing</p>	<p>No policies found</p>	<p>Gift state houses to non-government housing providers</p> <p>Review accommodation support payments</p>
Healthy, affordable homes with long term tenure	<p>Increase payments for accommodation costs</p> <p>Continue to provide grants for insulation</p> <p>Create new criminal offence for people to contaminate rental properties with meth</p> <p>Make it easier for landlords to test properties for meth</p> <p>Make tenants liable for careless damage to a rental property</p> <p>Improve protections for people living in unlawfully rented premises</p>	<p>Build 100,000 houses to sell to first home buyers</p> <p>Expand programmes to support Māori home ownership</p> <p>Introduce enforceable quality standards for rental housing</p> <p>Pay people on superannuation or a benefit for winter energy costs</p> <p>Abolish no cause evictions & increase the eviction notice period to 90 days</p> <p>Limit rent increases to once per year</p> <p>Abolish letting fees</p> <p>Allow some tenants to make minor alterations to rental properties</p>	<p>Build 10,000 homes to sell to low-income eaners through rent-to-own</p> <p>Allow student loan borrowers to defer student loan repayments to save for a home deposit</p> <p>Introduce a warrant of fitness scheme for rental homes</p> <p>Fund home insulation</p> <p>Pay low income households for winter energy costs.</p> <p>Provide more grants for home insulation and heating</p>	<p>Build 140,000 houses to sell to first home buyers</p> <p>Encourage local authorities to provide more affordable housing & land for housing</p> <p>Create tax incentives for landlords to upgrade rental housing</p> <p>Fund insulation for all uninsulated homes</p> <p>Improve building quality & sustainability objectives in the Building Code</p> <p>Provide superannuitants with a 10% discount on electricity during winter</p>	<p>Increase financial support for low-income first home buyers</p> <p>Subsidise private developers or include affordable housing in new developments</p> <p>Strengthen tenant's rights</p> <p>Streamline & clarify the bond refund system</p> <p>Consider capping rents for private rentals</p> <p>Introduce a warrant of fitness scheme for rental homes</p> <p>Subsidise solar energy, water tanks, and sustainale heating for all homes</p> <p>Halve power bills for households with rheumatic fever</p>	<p>Replace building safety & quality standards with mandatory private insurance</p>	<p>Introduce a warrant of fitness scheme for rental homes</p> <p>Extend insulation grants for low income households to cover electricity use</p> <p>Develop a market for long term tenancies as an alternative to home ownership</p>
Overall result for housing	2	6	6	3	6	0	2

A tax on very high levels of wealth and higher top tax rates on the highest incomes to ensure everyone contributes their fair share and enable our families and whānau to thrive							
	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Tax of very high levels of wealth	Existing two-year 'brightline' test for property	Tax capital gains on investment properties sold within 5 years of purchase	Introduce a capital gains tax on all assets except family homes	Provide a tax advantage for savings	No policies found	No policies found	Tax income from all productive assets & redistribute to below-average income earners
Higher top tax rates on highest incomes	Reduce tax on income up to \$52,000	Abolish secondary tax	Increase tax to 40% for income over \$150,000 Reduce tax to 9% for income under \$14,000	Abolish secondary tax	No policies found	Reduce all income tax rates to no more than 25%	Wealth tax likely to be offset by cuts to income tax rates
Overall result for Tax	1	2	5	1	0	0	3

Part 2: Longer term commitments aimed at reducing inequality in the long-run

A full partnership between Māori and the Crown to fulfil the promise of Te Tiriti							
	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Partnership between Māori & the Crown (see Policy Te Ao Māori)	Continue to conclude Treaty settlements	Work with iwi to resolve Treaty water claims	<p>Entrench Māori electorates & oppose any referendum on them</p> <p>End the requirement for the Crown to negotiate full & final Treaty settlements</p> <p>Reform the Treaty settlement approach to protect hapū and smaller iwi</p> <p>Allow local councils to establish Māori wards without holding a public poll</p>	<p>Settle all outstanding Treaty claims</p> <p>Remove the requirement to consult with iwi from the Resource Management Act</p> <p>Hold a referendum on Māori seats</p>	<p>Entrench Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all legislation</p> <p>Give freshwater the status of taonga under law</p> <p>Empower the Waitangi tribunal to make binding recommendations</p> <p>Entrench Māori electorate seats</p> <p>Strengthen Māori representation in local government</p>		<p>Oppose attempts to remove Māori electorates</p> <p>Establish a Upper House with equal Māori representation</p> <p>Create a written constitution which honours the Treaty of Waitangi</p> <p>Resolve treaty claims over water ownership</p>
Overall result for Te Tiriti	1	1	2	0	3	0	2.5

A free healthcare system to ensure everyone can access health support

	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Free healthcare system (Policy Public Health and Healthcare)	Cap doctor visits at \$18 for people with low incomes Increase health funding by \$3.9 billion over 4 years Increase funding for elective surgeries Build a new hospital in Dunedin Provide pregnant women with one free dental course Continue to implement a plan to reduce childhood obesity Work towards NZ being smokefree by 2025 Expand the programme to reduce Sudden Unexpented Death in Infancy	Increase health funding by \$8 billion over 4 years Reduce doctors' fees by \$10 Provide all schools with a comprehensive health service Build a new hospital in Dunedin Establish a National Cancer Agency	Increase health funding Extend free doctor visits to people under the age of 18 Provide all decile 1-4 schools with a nurse Tax sugary drinks Give all newborn babies a wahakura safe sleeping device	Increase health funding Provide superannuitants with three free doctors' visits & one free eye check per year Hold an inquiry into the health system Review the accessibility of affordable health foods Review the accessibility of safe spaces in communities for exercise & play	Make doctor & dentist visits free for under 18s Reduce the cost of prescriptions for low income whānau, over 65s & under 18s Provide everyone over 55 with one free annual doctor and dentist visit Provide more kaupapa Māori services Increase the number of mobile health services	Require immigrants who join their children in NZ to pay for their own healthcare & superannuation Legalise euthanasia	Improve coordination between the health & education systems for people with special needs Raise drinking age to 20 Increase tax on alcohol
Overall result for Health	1.5	2	2	2	3	0	1

Increased education funding to ensure every child and young person has access to free, quality public education that allows them to reach their full potential

	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Early childhood education	Increase funding for early childhood education	Fund new ECE centres in areas with low provision Reduce child to teacher ratios in ECE Require 80% registered teachers in ECE Early intervention programmes for vulnerable children in most deprived areas	Increase funding for ECE Reduce teacher to child ratios in ECE Support pay parity between ECE, Primary & Secondary teachers Increase ECE funding for children with disabilities Restore funding for all ECEC teachers to be qualified	Increase funding & support for Playcentres Require all ECE teachers to be registered Review adult/child ratios in ECE Improve access to ECE in rural communities Explore ways to fund Kōhanga Reo	Provide everyone with free ECE Digital education learning programmes in te reo Increase funding for Kōhanga reo	No policies found	Provide free full-time ECE for all children three years and over

		Develop 10 year strategic plan for ECE					
School	<p>Replace school decile funding systems with a risk-based system</p> <p>Increase funding for digital education initiatives</p> <p>Increase funding for maths in primary schools</p> <p>Make National Standards info more detailed & available online</p> <p>Provide all primary school students the option to study a second language</p>	<p>Provide schools with \$150 per student if they do not ask for parental donations</p> <p>Fund mobile digital devices for students</p> <p>Replace & repair out-dated school buildings by 2030</p> <p>Adolish National Standards</p> <p>Provide all students with personalised career advice & classes on practical life skills & civics</p>	<p>Fund schools enough for education to be free</p> <p>Introduce universal teaching to te reo Māori in public schools</p> <p>Increase education funding for children with disabilities</p> <p>Guarantee children the right to be education at their local school</p> <p>Make it safe for children to walk & cycle to school</p>	<p>End funding for charter schools</p> <p>Replace National Standards with individualised assessment</p> <p>Re-introduce Teacher Training Colleges & strengthen the entry criteria for teacher training</p> <p>Hold an education hui to develop a 30-year education plan</p> <p>Place at-risk young people with the army for job training</p>	<p>Provide free primary & secondary education to all children</p> <p>Provide free after school care programmes for all children</p> <p>Reduce class sizes in primary schools</p> <p>Make te reo Māori & Māori history & culture core curriculum subjects in all schools</p> <p>Ensure all young people leave school with a driver license, bank account, IRD number & a CV</p>	<p>Increase funding for private schools</p> <p>Open more charter schools</p> <p>Increase teacher salaries & introduce performance pay</p> <p>Charge international school fees for children whose parents are not tax residents</p>	<p>Reduce assessments in schools</p> <p>Stop publishing school results</p> <p>Merge administrative functions between schools in the same region</p> <p>Require teachers to have post-graduate degrees</p> <p>Improve coordination between the health & education systems for people with special needs</p>
Tertiary Education	<p>Increase payemts for students' accommoation costs</p> <p>Continue interest-free student loans</p> <p>Continue to invest in tertiary education</p> <p>Make tertiary educationfunding more flexible to allow it to change with student demand & the labour market</p> <p>Fund private & public tertiary education organisations on an equal basis</p>	<p>Provide 3 years of free tertiary education for everyone</p> <p>Increase student allowanvces & living cost loans by \$50 per week</p> <p>Consider writiing off student loans in exchange for work in areas of skill shortage</p> <p>Reinstate funding for night classes & adult learning</p>	<p>Reduce tertiary fees until tertiary education is free</p> <p>Introduce a univeral student allowance over time</p> <p>Adjust student loan repayments progressively with income</p> <p>Make public transport free for under 19s & free during off-peak times for students and apprentices</p> <p>Reinstate the student allowance for postgraduate students</p>	<p>Introduce a universal student allowance</p> <p>Write off student loans in exchange for time spent working in NZ</p> <p>Fully fund courses that address current skill shortages</p>	<p>Introduce a universal student allowance & increase accommodation benefit</p> <p>Reduce student loan repayment rates & write off living costs</p> <p>Introduce zero fee scholarship for First Whānau students</p> <p>Aim to double the number of Māori & Pacific students completing a Bachelor degree in 3 years</p>	<p>Increase borrowing limit for student living costs</p>	<p>Review tertiary education sector with a focus on lifelong learning</p> <p>Pay \$200 a week to everyone aged 18 – 23</p>
Overall result for Education	3	7	9	4	8	0	5

A huge boost to retraining and skills programmes to give people a better chance to find a job

	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Retraining & skill programmes	Provide work experience or training to young people who have been unemployed for more than six months. Aim to have 50,000 people in apprenticeships by 2020. Establish a programme to match young people with employers in the regions. Continue to fund community-based youth development programmes. Continue to fund young entrepreneur initiatives.	Develop a careers pathway programme for the primary sector. Provide everyone with three years of free post-school education. Provide community work jobs for young people who have been unemployed for more than six months. Offer cash grants to selected young people to start new businesses. Subsidise apprenticeships for unemployed young people.	Make public transport free for under 19s and free during off-peak times for students and apprentices. Work towards a public 'fee-free' tertiary education system by capping and then progressively reducing student fees. Expand the apprenticeship programme. Greater availability of bridging courses for immigrants in professions that New Zealand needs.	Provide community work jobs for unemployed young people. Implement an internship scheme in cooperation with local businesses. Fully fund courses that address current skill shortages. Place at-risk young people with the army for job training.	Provide unemployed young people with paid work experience. Double the number of Māori and Pasifika training and cadetship placements. Improve access to vocational training in isolated Māori communities. Provide low interest loans for young entrepreneurs. Increase the number of Māori and Pasifika in the construction sector.	No policies found.	Review the tertiary education sector with a focus on promoting lifelong learning
Overall result for training	2	2	2	2	2	0	0.5

Extending the law to enable industry collective bargaining

	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Industry collective bargaining	No policy available. Weakened collective bargaining provisions while in office.	Fair Pay Agreements will be launched once enough workers ask, and will set pay and conditions across industries.	Review existing law to enable multi-employer collective bargaining, and increase worker participation generally.	Wants "collaborative effort" between govt, business and unions and a fair, flexible and neutral policy. No specifics.	No policy available.	No policy available. Generally opposed to trade union influence.	No policy available.
Overall result for bargaining	0	3	2	1	0	0	0

Curbs on political donations to stop money distorting politics

	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Curbs on political donations	No policy available. Has generally opposed curbs on donations.	No policy available.	Tighter limits on anonymous donations and cap of \$35,000 on all donations.	No policy available.	No policy available.	No policy available. Generally opposed to curbs on political donations.	Wants measures to make government more open and transparent, but no policy specifically on donations.
Overall result for political donations	0	0	2	0	0	0	1

Broadcasting that serves the public interest

	National Party	Labour Party	Green Party	New Zealand First	Māori Party	ACT	TOP
Broadcasting serving the public interest	No policy available. Increased funding to RNZ in last budget after eight years of a spending freeze.	Turn RNZ into RNZ+, a new public digital media service. \$38 million fund for public interest programming and journalism.	Establish a cross-platform public journalism fund. Restore RNZ funding to 2008 levels.	Roll TVNZ and RNZ into one. De-commercialise TV1 Double development levy	No policy available.	No policy available.	Sell TVNZ to fund a public interest journalism fund, which RNZ could compete for.
Overall result for broadcasting	1	3	2.5	2	0	0	1