

**How will you vote this Election? We suggest comparing the Party policies on addressing inequality:  
The Equality Network identifies Ten Key Policy Areas that will make a difference.**

**The first three are priorities, because they would reduce the inequality existing. The following seven would prevent inequality from persisting.**

Priority Ask 1. Income that provides the necessities of life for All								
	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservative
<b>A Living Wage</b>	Extend the living wage beyond the core public sector, including to contractors. Bargaining provisions likely to strengthen Living Wage movement (see below). Committed to all four policy asks of the LW movement.  3 stars	Raise the minimum wage to \$25 per hour and annually increase it to keep up with cost of living increases.  Pay equity for Māori nurses & teachers. Eliminate starting-off / youth rate wages.  3 stars	Lift minimum wage to living wage for public sector employees, including contractors. Committed to all four policy asks of the LW movement.  3 stars	No mention of Living Wage.  Black star	Committed to three of the four policy asks of the LW movement, and part of their fourth ask.  2 stars	No mention of Living Wage.  Postpone minimum wage increase to 2021.  Black star	Minimum wage freeze for 3 yrs.  Black star	Freeze minimum wage.  No mention of Living Wage  Black star
<b>Significantly higher benefits</b>	Guaranteed Minimum Income \$325 pw  Universal Family Benefit \$100 pw for under-3s  In Work Tax Credit rolled into FTC  Sole parents get extra \$110 pw  3 stars	Double baseline benefit levels and Individualise benefits.  Remove financial penalties, sanctions, and work-test obligations.  Cancel income support related debt.  Raise abatement rates.  A universal student allowance and double what it is now.  3 stars	Allow people to earn more before benefits are reduced.  Abatement thresholds increased to \$160/week - \$250/week.  1 star	Universal Basic Income replaces all benefits that are less than the Universal Basic Income.  Effective increase to the incomes of some people reliant on a benefit.  1.5 stars	Universal Family Benefit paid for by reprioritising existing spending.  0.5 star	Maintain benefits at current levels.  Black star	Has called for cuts to benefits.  Black star	Require people to be actively seeking work to get the unemployment benefit.  Require beneficiaries to attend a work centre.  Consider establishing mandatory work programmes for unemployed people.  Black star

**Priority Ask 2. Tax Justice, ie. to redistribute wealth and provide New Zealand's safety net**

	<b>Green Party</b>	<b>Māori Party</b>	<b>Labour Party</b>	<b>TOP</b>	<b>New Zealand First</b>	<b>National Party</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>New Conservative</b>
<b>Tax very high levels of wealth</b>	<p>Wealth tax of 1% on \$1m+, 2% on \$2m+</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>A tax on vacant houses.</p> <p>A capital gains tax on properties other than the family home.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>No plans for a wealth tax.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>A risk-free rate of return method on property.</p> <p>Tax GST to Local authorities</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Continue to improve the penalty framework for tax evasion.</p> <p>Oppose capital gains tax and GST on property rates.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No wealth tax policy.</p> <p>No new regulations for the next 18 months.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No wealth tax policy.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No plans for a wealth tax.</p> <p>Black star</p>
<b>Higher tax rates on the highest incomes</b>	<p>New top rates of 37% (\$100k) and 42% (\$150k).</p> <p>2.5 stars</p>	<p>No plans to increase top tax rates.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>New top tax bracket of 39% on income over \$180,000.</p> <p>Tax multi-national businesses operating here.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Would tax all income on 33% tax rate.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No plans to increase top tax rates.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Keep taxes at current rates.</p> <p>Adjust income tax brackets for inflation (time limited for two years).</p> <p>Repeal Auckland fuel tax &amp; pause fuel taxes increases for 3 years.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Wants to cut taxes.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Would reduce income taxes and reduce overall tax take by \$10 billion.</p> <p>Exempt government charges from GST.</p> <p>Allow couples to split incomes to reduce tax.</p> <p>Black star</p>

**Priority Ask 3. Fixing the Housing Crisis**

	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservative
<b>Clearing the social housing waiting list</b>	5000 homes per annum for 5 years explicitly to clear social housing waiting list.  3 stars	No specific policy that will impact the social waiting list.  Allocate half of all new social housing units to Māori  Half a star	Promising about half the number required: 8000 over four years.  2 stars	Subsidised local providers to build social housing on govt land.  1 star	Continue to build more social housing (no numbers given).  Low interest (2%) funding to local authorities to build public rental housing.  1 star	Work with community housing providers to continue to increase supply.  Continue to build state houses.  1 star	No policy on state housing or community housing.  Black star	No policy on state housing or community housing  Black star
<b>Healthy, affordable homes with long term tenure</b>	Revamped building code for warmer, dryer homes.  Rental Warrant of Fitness.  2 stars	Iwi Build Policy: with 25% of the total government housing budget.  Build 2000 homes on ancestral land over the next two years.  1.5 stars	Continue status quo funding to assist lower income families to buy homes.  Strengthen Māori housing outcomes through collaborative partnerships, home-ownership models and papakāinga provision.  1.5 stars	Redirect GST revenue to Councils for infrastructure.  Supports Rental Warrant of Fitness.  Replace Resource Management Act with a separate law for Urban Development.  1.5 stars	Capitalise Universal Family Benefit for deposit for home ownership.  Tax incentives for investment in private rental housing  Bring back 90-day 'no-cause' evictions to rental laws.  Half a star	Relax heating and ventilations standards for rental housing.  Remove restrictions on foreign ownership of residential property.  Replace RMA with separate laws for environmental standards & urban planning.  Black star	Replace Resource Management Act with an Urban Development Act to lead to more affordable houses.  Allow councils to levy targeted rates.  Half a star	Prioritise recovery spending on housing development.  Relax building regulations.  Tax house purchase by non-citizens & local investors with 2 or more properties.  Reform Resource Management Act to focus on private property rights.  No policy found on renting.  Half a star

**New Zealand further needs to see:**

**4. A full partnership between Māori and the Crown to fulfil the promise of Te Tiriti o Waitangi**

	<b>Green Party</b>	<b>Māori Party</b>	<b>Labour Party</b>	<b>TOP</b>	<b>New Zealand First</b>	<b>National Party</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>New Conservative</b>
<b>Partnership between Māori &amp; the Crown</b>	<p>Promise of govt response to Matike Mai.</p> <p>Constitutional 'transformation' by 2040.</p> <p>Compulsory te reo in schools.</p> <p>Embed kaitiakitanga in Reserves Act.</p> <p>A Māori health agency.</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>With 25% of the Recovery budget, reflect the Te Tiriti relationship in their structure and membership.</p> <p>Iwi Build and Whānau First policies to ensure partnership.</p> <p>Recognise Māori rights and interests in freshwater.</p> <p>Co-creation of climate change plans with Māori.</p> <p>Audit govt depts for cultural competency.</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>Has a full Labour Māori Manifesto.</p> <p>Ensure Oranga Tamariki partners with iwi, hapu and Māori organisations.</p> <p>Celebrating Matariki from 2022.</p> <p>Continuing to invest in Whānau Ora and support other agencies to implement its model.</p> <p>Set a target for Māori business procurement.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Establish an upper house with equal representation.</p> <p>Written constitution that honours Te Tiriti.</p> <p>Would resolve issues over water ownership with regards to te Tiriti.</p> <p>Require residency applicants to show understanding of te Tiriti.</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>The party has called for an end to "special treatment" of Māori, has no Tiriti section inside manifesto.</p> <p>Devolving "Ministry for Children" resourcing and responsibilities where appropriate to iwi and Maori organisations.</p> <p>Ensure the future of Maori seats is a decision for the people to make.</p> <p>Oppose the establishment of separate Maori Wards.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on Te Tiriti.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Abolish Māori seats.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>End co-governance arrangements.</p> <p>Abolish marine/ coastal customary interests.</p> <p>Abolish Māori seats. Disestablish Waitangi Tribunal.</p> <p>Remove requirement to consult from the Resource Management Act.</p> <p>Black star</p>

### 5. A free healthcare system to ensure everyone can access health support

	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservative
<b>Free healthcare system (Policy Public Health and Healthcare)</b>	<p>Ensure universal access to healthcare services, regardless of their ability to pay, unclear how.</p> <p>Increase public health funding.</p> <p>Free GP and dental visits up to 18.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>Emphasis on filling the gap left in pandemic response plan by Māori/ for Māori.</p> <p>Establish a Māori Health Authority.</p> <p>Require DHBs to increase funds to Māori health providers.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Long-term (ie no timeframe) reform of the health and disability system.</p> <p>Mental health support for all primary and intermediate students.</p> <p>More funding for health and PHARMAC.</p> <p>Additional \$200m to reduce waiting lists.</p> <p>\$1000 Dental health grants.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>Make GP visits under \$10.</p> <p>Free Dental for all &lt;18s and low-income households.</p> <p>Re-establish the Public Health Commission.</p> <p>An over-all funding increase for health.</p> <p>Centralise DHBs.</p> <p>Increase funding for primary healthcare.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>New investment in PHARMAC for rare disorders, innovative medicines, and new medicines development.</p> <p>Free dental care (means-tested) for all under 26, over 65, and parents, caregivers, and pregnant women.</p> <p>Primary care funding reallocated to better reflect ethnicity, complexity, comorbidity and age.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Establish independent cancer agency.</p> <p>Increase funding to PHARMAC for cancer drugs.</p> <p>Require a Maori health strategy to identify measures to reduce inequality.</p> <p>Pass all health legislation through an inequality filter.</p> <p>Navigators in every GP practice.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>Expanded mental health commission but no new funding.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Create individual health accounts to incentivise prevention.</p> <p>Anti-abortion policy.</p> <p>Focus on suicide prevention inside mental health policy.</p> <p>Expand health checks for elderly.</p> <p>Introduce user pay fees for needing substance abuse treatment.</p> <p>Increase palliative care funding. Require parental consent for medical procedures for under 16s.</p> <p>Black star</p>

## 6. Increased education funding to ensure every child and young person can reach their full potential

	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservatives
<b>Early Childhood Education (ECE)</b>	<p>Increased ECE, special education and kura kaupapa funding.</p> <p>Better child to teacher ratios.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>Implement Te Kōhanga Reo settlement claim (WAI 2336) including by significantly increase operational funding for kōhanga, recognising kaiako qualifications, and guaranteeing pay equity.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Replace the decile system with an equity index.</p> <p>Increase funding for fully qualified staff.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>Free access to ECE.</p> <p>Strong support for the Finnish “best-practice” model.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Review the staffing ratio.</p> <p>Amend relevant criteria to ensure increased isolated rural communities have ECE.</p> <p>Support the HIPPY provision of ECE.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Simplify ECE funding system.</p> <p>Explore ways to ensure disadvantaged children are enrolled and attend ECE.</p> <p>Lower adult to child ratios.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>No ECE policy found.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Tax rebate to parents equivalent to 20 hours ECE.</p> <p>1 star</p>
<b>Primary and Secondary School</b>	<p>Schools are hubs of their communities.</p> <p>Improve teacher to student ratios</p> <p>Increase funding for Te Reo Maori classes.</p> <p>Increase funding for special education and learning support.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Māori medium education funded equal to its mainstream equivalents.</p> <p>Fund free breakfast and lunch programmes in all low-decile schools.</p> <p>Increase funding for Te Reo training for teachers, and classes.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>New equity index.</p> <p>Expand free school lunches.</p> <p>Upgrade school buildings.</p> <p>An extra 600 learning support coordinators.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Free access to primary education.</p> <p>Strong support for the Finnish “best-practice” model.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Deliver full tranche of Learning Support coordinators across NZ to all schools.</p> <p>Develop screening tools, funding and resourcing to best meet needs of children with special learning needs.</p> <p>Increase the Ongoing Reviewable Resource Scheme to cover children with high needs.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Increase funding for learning support and teacher aides. Ensure children have internet access for online learning. Increase funding for school infrastructure. Continue to support Maori medium education. Apply social investment approach to education funding. Replace decile funding system with equity index. Reform food in schools programme.</p> <p>1.5 star</p>	<p>Cut bureaucracy to free up \$250m for frontline education.</p> <p>Privatising education funding.</p> <p>Partnership schools.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Replace school bulk funding with funding that follows each child.</p> <p>Retain charter schools &amp; correspondence schooling.</p> <p>End compulsory teaching of Te Reo Maori and culture.</p> <p>Black star</p>
<b>Tertiary Education</b>	<p>Universal allowances, guaranteed minimum income.</p> <p>Ease student loan repayments.</p> <p>Disability access funding.</p> <p>Pasifika strategy.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Introduce universal student allowance at double the current rate. Write off living cost component of all student loans.</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>Maintain the fees free for first year.</p> <p>Continue the reforms of the vocational sector.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Improve free access to tertiary education.</p> <p>Strong support for the Finnish “best-practice” model.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Implement Up Front Tertiary Policy to remove all student debt.</p> <p>Universal living allowance.</p> <p>Dollar for dollar debt write-off scheme.</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>Ending the current gov’t fees-free programme. Allow tertiary education providers to bring international students to NZ.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No increased funding policy found for tertiary education.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Re-introduce fees on 1<sup>st</sup> year of study and first 2 years of training.</p> <p>Black star</p>

## 7. A huge boost to retraining and skills programmes to give everyone potential to be productive for life

	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservatives
<b>Boosts to retraining and skills programs</b>	<p>Support for free apprenticeships.</p> <p>Clean Energy Training Plan.</p> <p>Guaranteed Minimum Income for students of \$325 pw.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>Focus within Covid 19 policy that recovery investment reserves 25% for delivery of Māori workforce training and recruitment.</p> <p>\$200m to drive whānau, hapū and iwi education and training initiatives.</p> <p>Increase scholarships for young Māori to train as teachers of Te Aho Matua and for reo Māori speakers to train as teachers.</p> <p>Create pathways for school leavers:</p> <p>Establish a \$276m fund to ramp up the work of STEM and STEAM academies, such as the Pūhoro STEM Academy.</p> <p>Double the existing Māori and Pacific trade training and cadetships placements per annum.</p> <p>Permanently remove fees from apprenticeships.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Continue the training and apprenticeship fund.</p> <p>Night classes.</p> <p>Reform of the vocational sector.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>Increased funding for coding training.</p> <p>Encourage schools place more emphasis on careers in construction.</p> <p>Encourage intensive short courses at tertiary level</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Continue to support resourcing of apprenticeships &amp; on-job learning to develop a skilled workforce.</p> <p>Linked internships to bridge industry &amp; training.</p> <p>Increasing financial support with employment support with incentives to employers to take on trainees, apprentices and new employees.</p> <p>Re-establish Workbridge employment agency for people with disability</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>Reverse govt's polytechnic reforms, re-establish polytechnics as independent legal entities.</p> <p>Pay tertiary providers \$4000 / unemployed person they retrain &amp; get into full time work.</p> <p>12-week business training and mentoring programme for starting a business.</p> <p>Dedicated fund to deliver \$5000 subsidy for management training to small business owners.</p> <p>1000 STEM scholarships and a PhD recruitment programme.</p> <p>A specialist position within Work and Income, tasked with working with Kiwis&lt;25 on JobSeeker benefit to develop 'path to work' plans.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>No policy found.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Stream students into trades training from Year 9.</p> <p>Black star</p>

### 8. Extend Industry collective bargaining laws so individuals enjoy more rights at work

	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservative
<b>Industry collective bargaining</b>	<p>Progress fair pay agreements.</p> <p>Default union membership.</p> <p>Restore right to political/solidarity strikes.</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>Guarantee pay equity for Māori nurses and teachers.</p> <p>Legislate to ensure the ability for multi-employer collective bargaining and collective bargaining for contractors.</p> <p>1.5 stars</p>	<p>Significant support for extending collective bargaining.</p> <p>Implement fair pay agreements.</p> <p>Make it harder to undermine collective agreements.</p> <p>Improve protections for dependent contractors.</p> <p>2.5 stars</p>	<p>Improving protections for migrant workers.</p> <p>Increase pay transparency.</p> <p>Half a star</p>	<p>No policy within Manifesto.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Reinstate 90-day trial periods for all businesses.</p> <p>Repeal changes Employment Relations Act.</p> <p>Simplify employment dispute process.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Allow employers to fire employees after one failure to correct underperformance.</p> <p>Remove business and farming regulations with no health and safety benefits.</p> <p>Relax health and safety requirements.</p> <p>Black star</p>

### 9. Curb political donations to stop money distorting politics

	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservative
<b>Curbs on political donations</b>	<p>Citizen's assembly on donations.</p> <p>Existing policy cap of \$35,000.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Strong emphasis on binding referenda, but no policy on political donations.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Want to be able to spend more rather than curbing donations.</p> <p>Black star</p>

### 10. Public Broadcasting that serves our democracy

	Green Party	Māori Party	Labour Party	TOP	New Zealand First	National Party	ACT	New Conservative
<b>Broadcasting serving the public interest</b>	<p>Public Interest Journalism Fund.</p> <p>Digital services tax to fund local media.</p> <p>Increased RNZ funding.</p> <p>3 stars</p>	<p>Require basic te reo fluency for all broadcasters.</p> <p>1 star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>Sell TVNZ and use the money to set up a public journalism fund.</p> <p>Half a star</p>	<p>Stand-alone funding entity &amp; contestable "Public Good" journalism fund.</p> <p>Release TVNZ from paying govt dividend.</p> <p>Secure and future proof RNZ Concert.</p> <p>2 stars</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>	<p>No policy on website.</p> <p>Black star</p>