

Table 1: Political Efficacy Over Time (1993-2005)

	1993	1996	1998	1999	2001	2002	2005
MPs out of Touch	61	53	76	52	56	49	44
People Like me have no Say	63	57	-	55	-	46	48
Politicians Don't Care what People Think	66	57	-	55	-	50	44
Government run by a Few Big Interests	60	54	-	50	-	42	39
Satisfaction with Democracy	-	69	45	57	60	67	65
Trust Government to do what is Right	31	30	26	36	47	44	45
My vote Really Counts in Elections*	75	85	66	77	-	69	72
Trust in a Political Party**	44	54	-	59	-	65	78
Trust in the Labour Party	13	23	-	36	-	42	44
N	2205	4086	535	5601	729	4500	2806

NOTES:

1. All data are based on NZES post election surveys except for the mid-term surveys conducted in July 1998 and July 2001.
 2. *In 1996, the question was asked slightly differently: 'My party vote really counts in elections'
 3. **Would you describe [party] as trustworthy or untrustworthy? In 1993 and 1996, National, Labour, Alliance, NZ First; in 1999 National, Labour First, and ACT; in 2002 National, Labour, NZ First, Act and Green; in 2005 National, Labour,
3. 2002--1999 all-New Zealand comparisons were checked within the panel containing persons who responded to both questions after both elections. Differences were similar, with the cross-sectional comparisons providing somewhat more conservative estimates