



# The New Zealand Attitudes and Values Study



## Experiences of Material Deprivation in New Zealand in 2015

In 2015, the New Zealand Attitudes and Values Study (NZAVS) asked adult New Zealanders whether they had difficulty accessing affordable food and heating during 2014/2015, and whether their household had experienced significant unemployment.

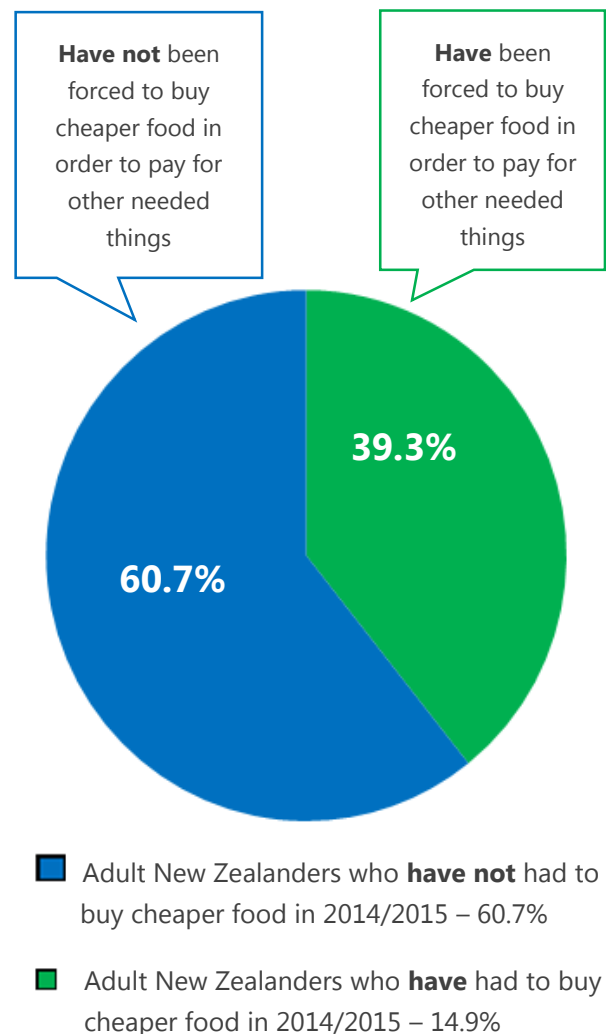
### WHAT QUESTIONS WERE ASKED?

In the 2015 NZAVS questionnaire, people responded to the question below:

- In the last year have you personally...
- (a) been forced to buy cheaper food so you could pay for other things you needed?  Yes  No
  - (b) put up with feeling cold to save on heating costs?  Yes  No
  - (c) or the principal earner in your household been out-of-work?  Yes  No

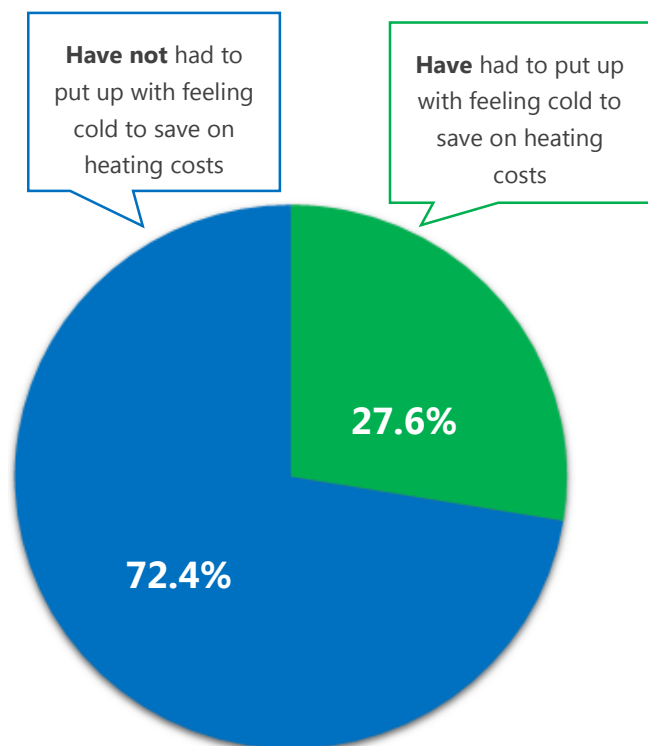
### Food quality deprivation

As the graph below shows, 39.3% of the 14,924 respondents have been forced to buy cheaper food in order to buy other things they needed during the past year, while 60.7% have not.



### Heating deprivation

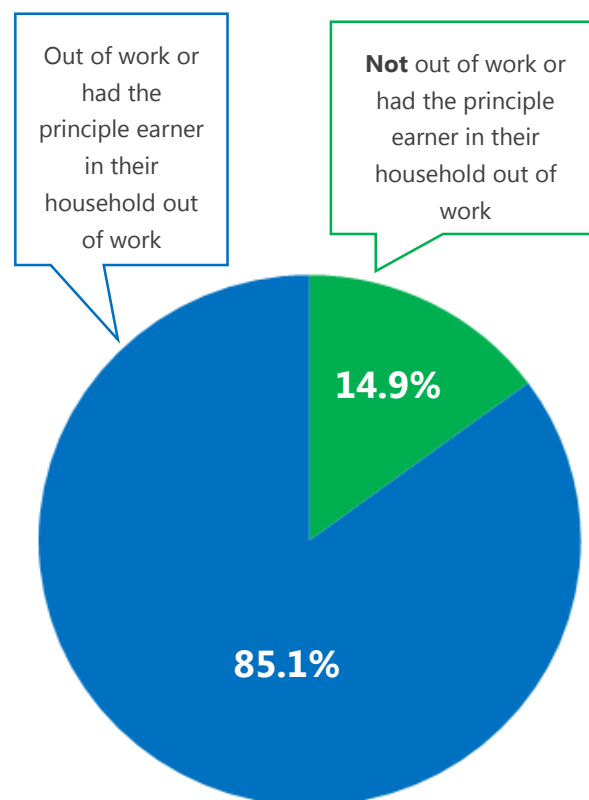
As the graph below shows, 27.6% of the 15,099 respondents have had to put up with feeling cold in order to save on heating costs during the past year, while 72.4% have not.



- Adult New Zealanders who **have not** had to put up with feeling cold in 2014/2015 – 72.4%
- Adult New Zealanders who **have** had to put up with feeling cold in 2014/2015 – 27.6%

### Significant unemployment

As the graph below shows, 14.9% of the 15,131 respondents have either been out of work themselves or else had the principle earner in their household out of work during 2014/2015, while 85.1% have not.



- Adult New Zealanders whose households **have not** experienced significant unemployment in 2014/2015 – 85.1%
- Adult New Zealanders whose households **have** experienced significant unemployment in 2014/2015 – 14.9%



## SUMMARY

In 2015:

- About 2 in 5 adult New Zealanders could not afford the foods they wanted to buy.
- About 1 in 4 adult New Zealanders could not afford sufficient heating.
- About 1 in 7 adult New Zealanders experienced significant unemployment.

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NZAVS Policy Brief

Suggested citation: Newton H. J., Kapeli, S. A., Steiner-Fox, H. W., Lindsay, C., Christiansen, S. J., Dutt, S. J., Sare, M. H., & Matika, C. M. (2016). Experiences of material deprivation in New Zealand in 2015. *NZAVS Policy Brief*, 2.



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