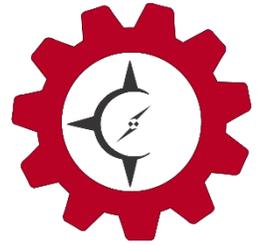


The International Social Survey Programme (ISSP): A wealth of underutilised data

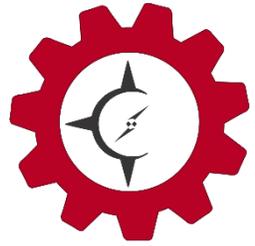
Komathi Kolandai (COMPASS & Public Policy Institute)
& Martin von Randow (COMPASS)

Tuesday, 25 October 2022
COMPASS Colloquium, Wellington



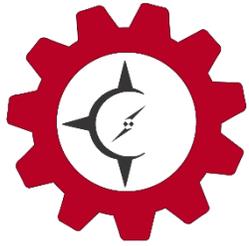
Overview of the ISSP

- ⚙️ A continuing annual cross-national research collaboration formed in 1984 (first survey in 1985)
- ⚙️ Currently consists of 43 member states
- ⚙️ New Zealand has been a member since 1991 (<https://issp.org/member-states/new-zealand>)
- ⚙️ A different social science topic is examined each year, and the topic is repeated every ten years
- ⚙️ Implemented through national cross-sectional surveys containing standardised questions asked in all participating countries
 - ⚙️ Plus the option to add in country-specific questions of interest



ISSP data in New Zealand

- ⚙ 1991–2010 implemented by Phil Gendall at Massey University
- ⚙ 2011, 2012 – missing years
- ⚙ 2013 onwards – implemented by COMPASS as Social Attitudes Survey New Zealand
- ⚙ Final data are made freely available
 - ⚙ https://auckland.figshare.com/collections/International_Social_Survey_Programme/2174592
 - ⚙ <https://www.gesis.org/en/issp/modules/issp-modules-by-topic>
 - ⚙ <https://catalogue.data.govt.nz/dataset/?tags=issp>
 - ⚙ <https://tinyurl.com/compass-issp>

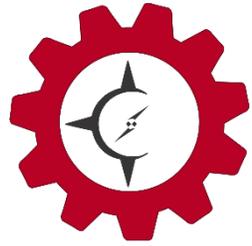


New Zealand's participation

Role of Government	Social Networks	Social Inequality	Family and Changing Gender Roles	Work Orientations	Religion	Environment	National Identity	Citizenship	Leisure Time & Sports	Health and Health Care
1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1991 (n=1,070)	1993 (n=1,271)	1995 (n=1,043)	2004 (n=1,370)	2007 (n=996)	2011
1990	2001 (n=1,146)	1992 (n=1,239)	1994 (n=1,047)	1997 (n=1,198)	1998 (n=998)	2000 (n=1,112)	2003 (n=1,036)	2014/15 (n=901)		2021 (n=1,135)
1996 (n=1,198)	2017 (n=1,358)	1999 (n=1,108)	2002 (n=1,025)	2005 (n=1,309)	2008 (n=1,024)	2010 (n=1,172)	2013 (n=829)			
2006 (n=1,263)		2009 (n=938)	2012	2015 (n=901)	2018 (n=1,333)	2020/21 (n=993)	2023 (n=.....)			
2016 (n=1,350)		2019 (n=1,210)	2022 (n=.....)							

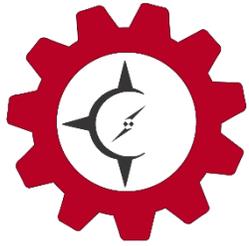
Sampling methods

- ⚙️ Survey response rates have steadily been going down:
 - ⚙️ NZ Election Study 1990 – 63%; NZ Election Study 2017 – 30%
- ⚙️ For the ISSP, this varies based on the topic
- ⚙️ Since 2018 we have honed our sample stratification by:
 - ⚙️ Sex – based on title & name
 - ⚙️ Age group – based on 5-year age bands
 - ⚙️ Ethnicity – based on meshblock populations
- ⚙️ Oversampling of minority and known low-response groups – aiming for sufficient responses to enable subgroup analysis

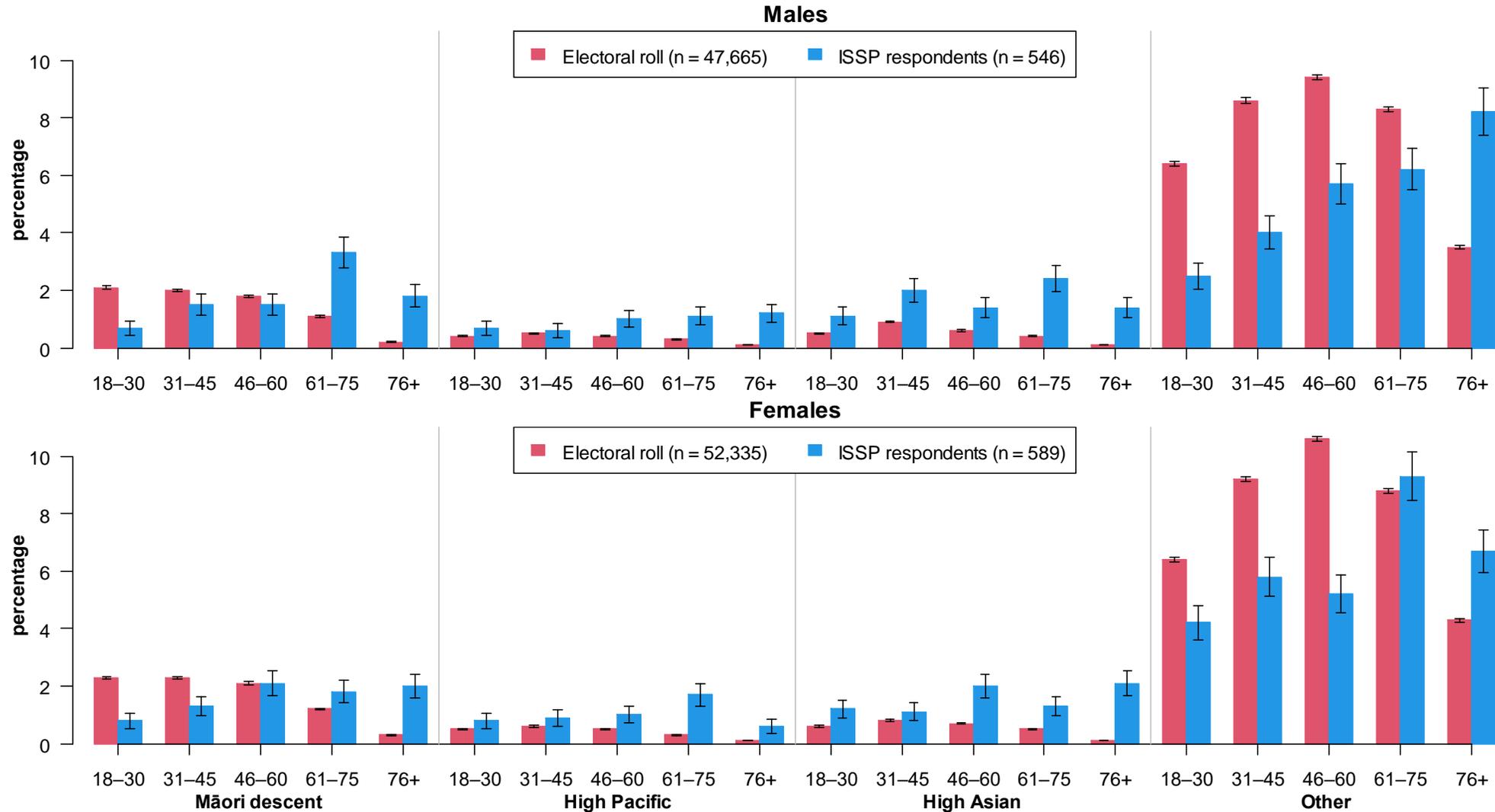


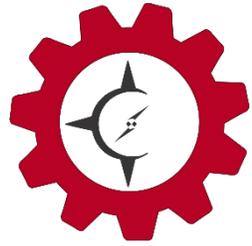
Stratification (i)

	Māori descent	High Pacific	High Asian	Other
Males				
18–30 years	160 (5.0%)	180 (4.7%)	160 (7.6%)	275 (10.2%)
31–45 years	160 (10.8%)	180 (4.0%)	160 (14.6%)	275 (16.5%)
46–60 years	120 (14.2%)	120 (9.2%)	120 (13.6%)	262 (25.1%)
61–75 years	80 (46.3%)	60 (20.3%)	80 (35.1%)	183 (38.3%)
76+ years	60 (34.5%)	60 (23.3%)	70 (22.9%)	223 (41.7%)
Females				
18–30 years	170 (5.4%)	180 (5.1%)	150 (9.7%)	341 (14.2%)
31–45 years	130 (11.8%)	120 (8.5%)	120 (10.0%)	328 (20.2%)
46–60 years	120 (20.2%)	120 (9.2%)	100 (23.0%)	210 (28.6%)
61–75 years	70 (29.4%)	90 (21.6%)	70 (21.4%)	236 (44.7%)
76+ years	70 (33.3%)	90 (8.1%)	100 (24.5%)	197 (38.8%)



Stratification (ii)

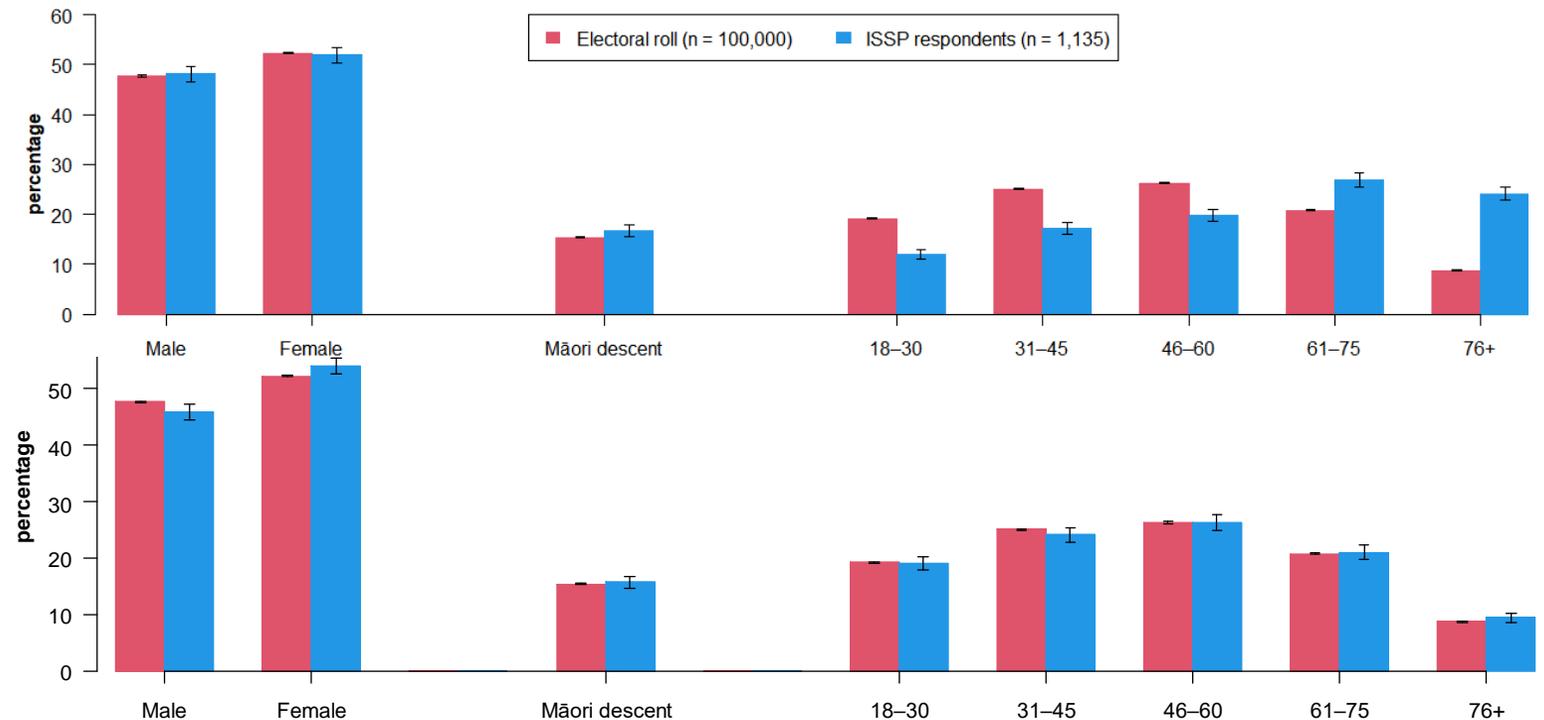


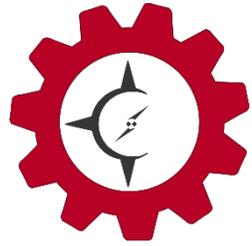


Weighting

⚙️ We perform post-stratification weighting to bring our final sample back in line with the electoral roll

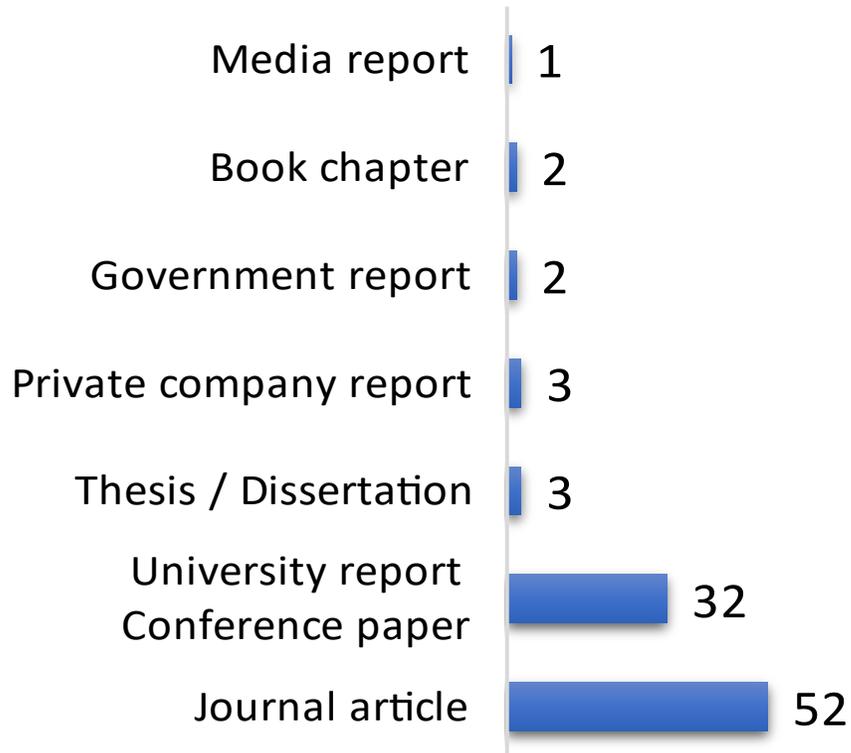
- ⚙️ Age group
- ⚙️ Māori descent
- ⚙️ Region
- ⚙️ NZDep quintile
- ⚙️ Urbanicity
- ⚙️ Occupation



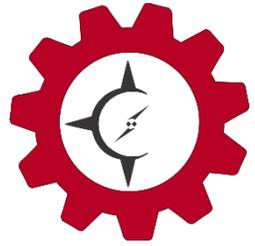


An underutilised dataset

95 NZ Publications based on ISSP data (1992-2021)



- ⚙️ Hardly reflected in government reports or policy documents
- ⚙️ Not reflected in the Living Standards Framework dashboard
- ⚙️ Hardly used for decision-making?



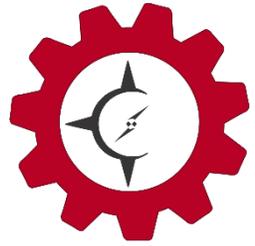
Examples of variables

Work Orientations

-  Work centrality
-  Work-life balance
-  Conflict and social exclusion (harassment, discrimination)
-  Solidarity
-  Working hours arrangements

Environment

-  Environmental concern
-  Environmental behaviour
-  Engagement in nature-based activities
-  Nature enjoyment
-  Experienced environmental impacts



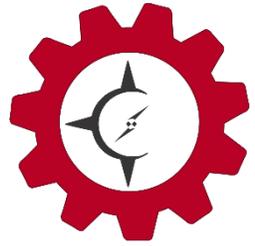
Examples of variables

Role of Government

-  Law abidance
-  Government spending
-  Government responsibilities
-  National security
-  Corruption

Social Networks

-  Empowerment (having a voice)
-  Support networks
-  Trust in others
-  Social media interactions
-  Contact with family



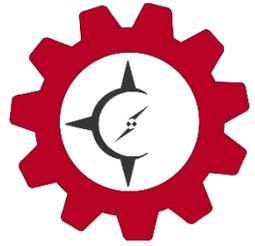
Examples of variables

Social inequality

-  Opportunities for getting ahead in life
-  Income
-  Income taxes
-  Social class
-  Conflicts

Family & Changing Gender Roles

-  Gender roles
-  Marriage
-  Unpaid work
-  Gendered division of household work
-  Work-family conflicts
-  Decision-making within partnerships



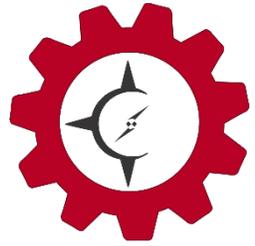
Examples of variables

Religion

-  Gender roles
-  Abortion
-  Adultery
-  Same-sex relations
-  Institutional power
-  Belief in God

National Identity

-  Identification with community
-  Nationalism
-  National pride (e.g. democracy, economic achievements, sports achievement)
-  Attitudes to foreigners and foreign cultural presence
-  Patriotism



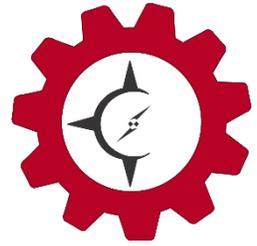
Examples of variables

Citizenship

-  Duties and obligations of citizenship
-  Participation (e.g. petitions, boycotts, demonstrations)
-  Group membership
-  Citizens' rights in a democracy
-  Unjust law

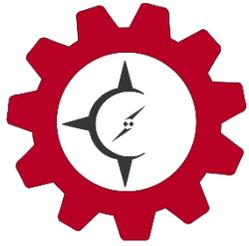
Health and Health care

-  Subjective wellbeing – happiness
-  Satisfaction with health system
-  Equity in healthcare access
-  Beliefs about health (behaviour, genes, poverty, environment)
-  Alternative medicine

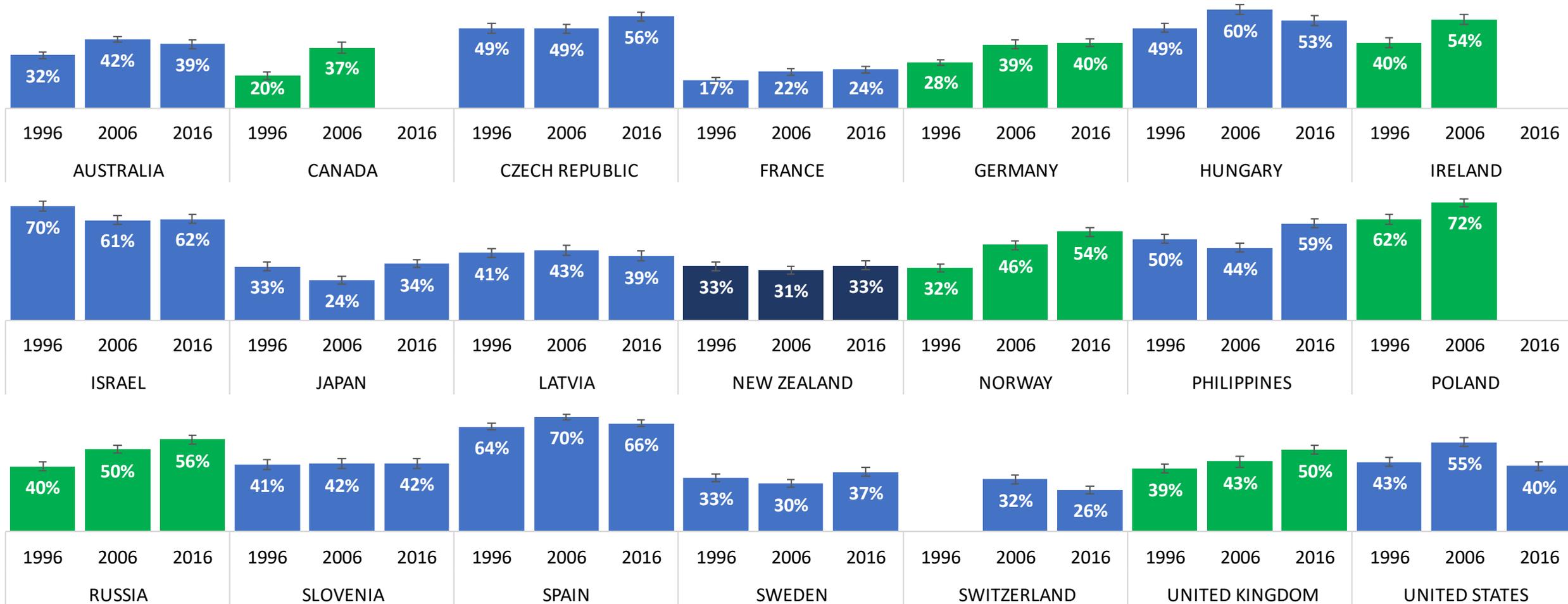


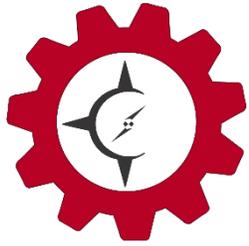
Additional variables

-  Access to and engagement with information technology
(e.g. Internet at home, having a smartphone, social media use)
(New Zealand only)
-  Household size and members (New Zealand only)
-  Social ladder (International)

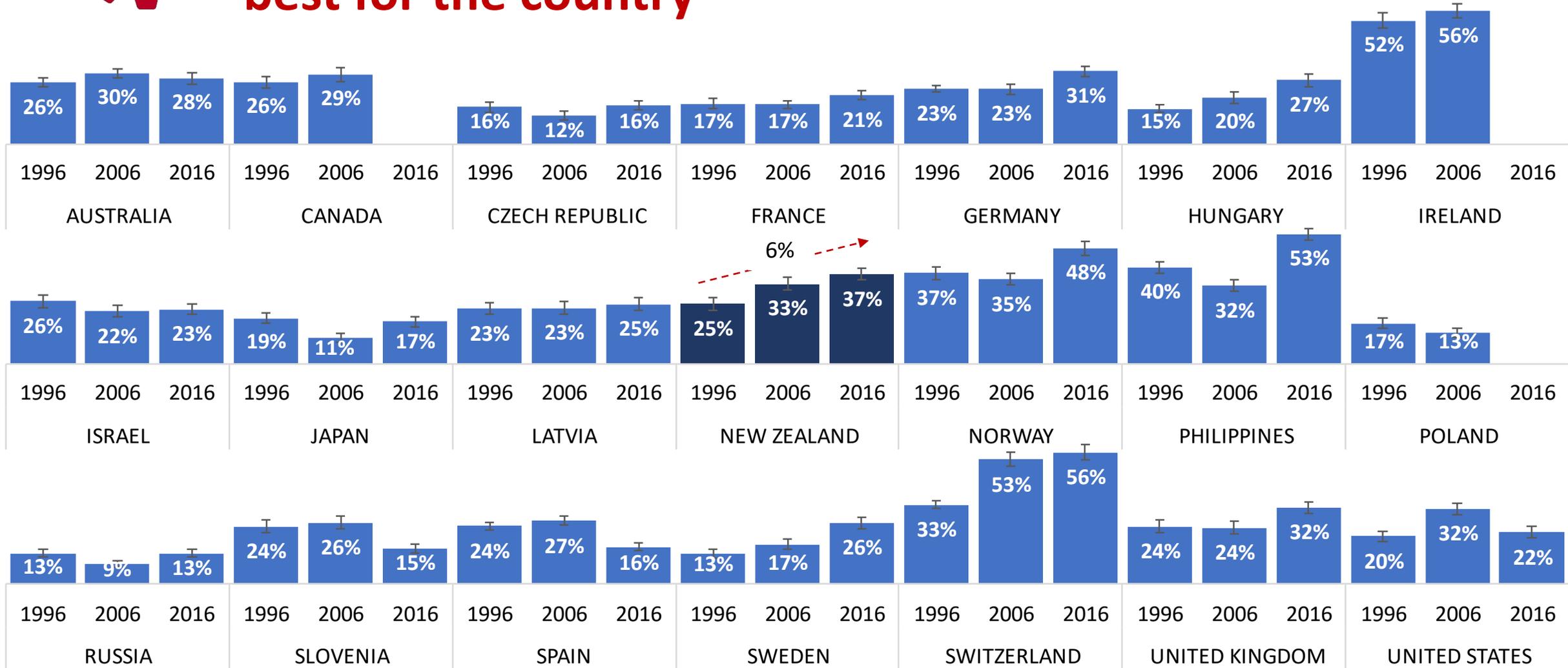


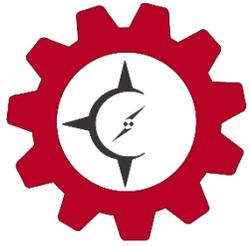
Proportions believing in obeying the law without exception vs. following conscience on occasion even if it means breaking the law



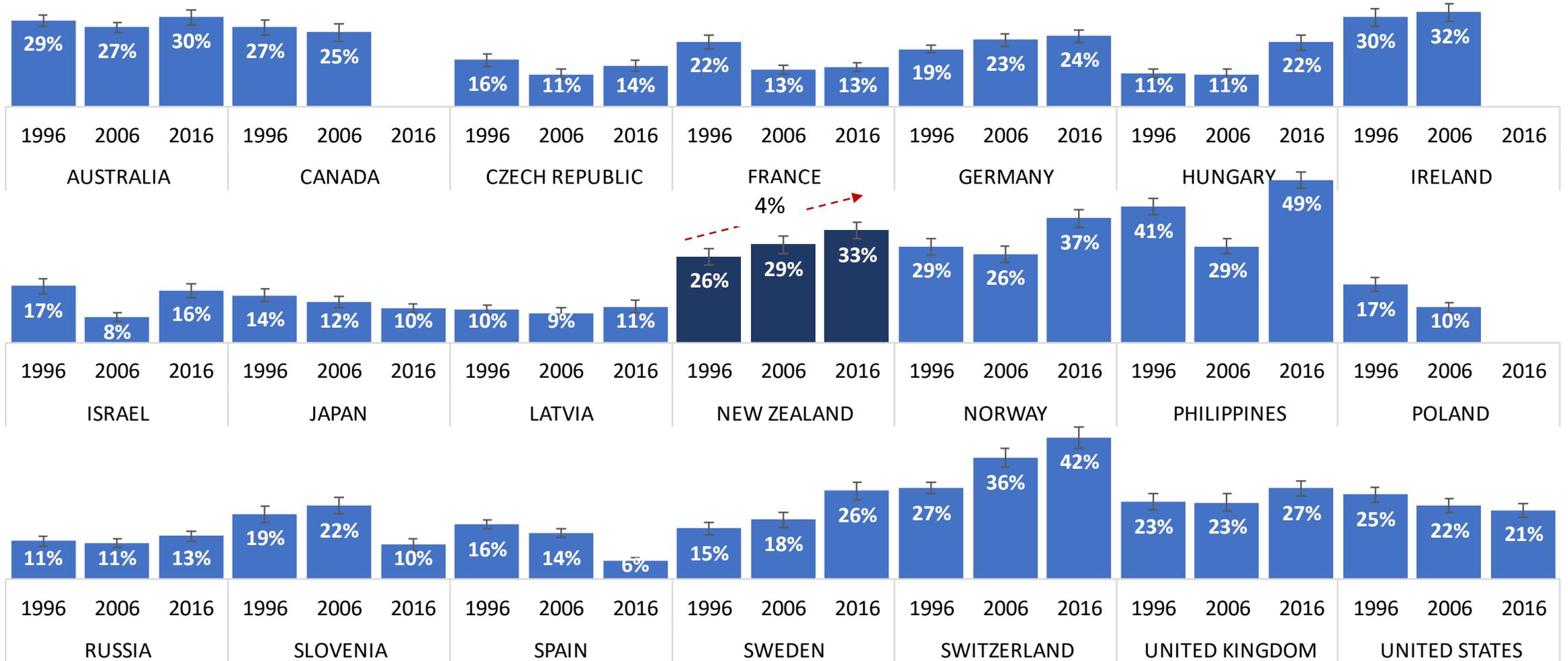


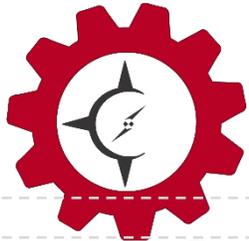
Proportions believing that most civil servants could be trusted to do what is best for the country



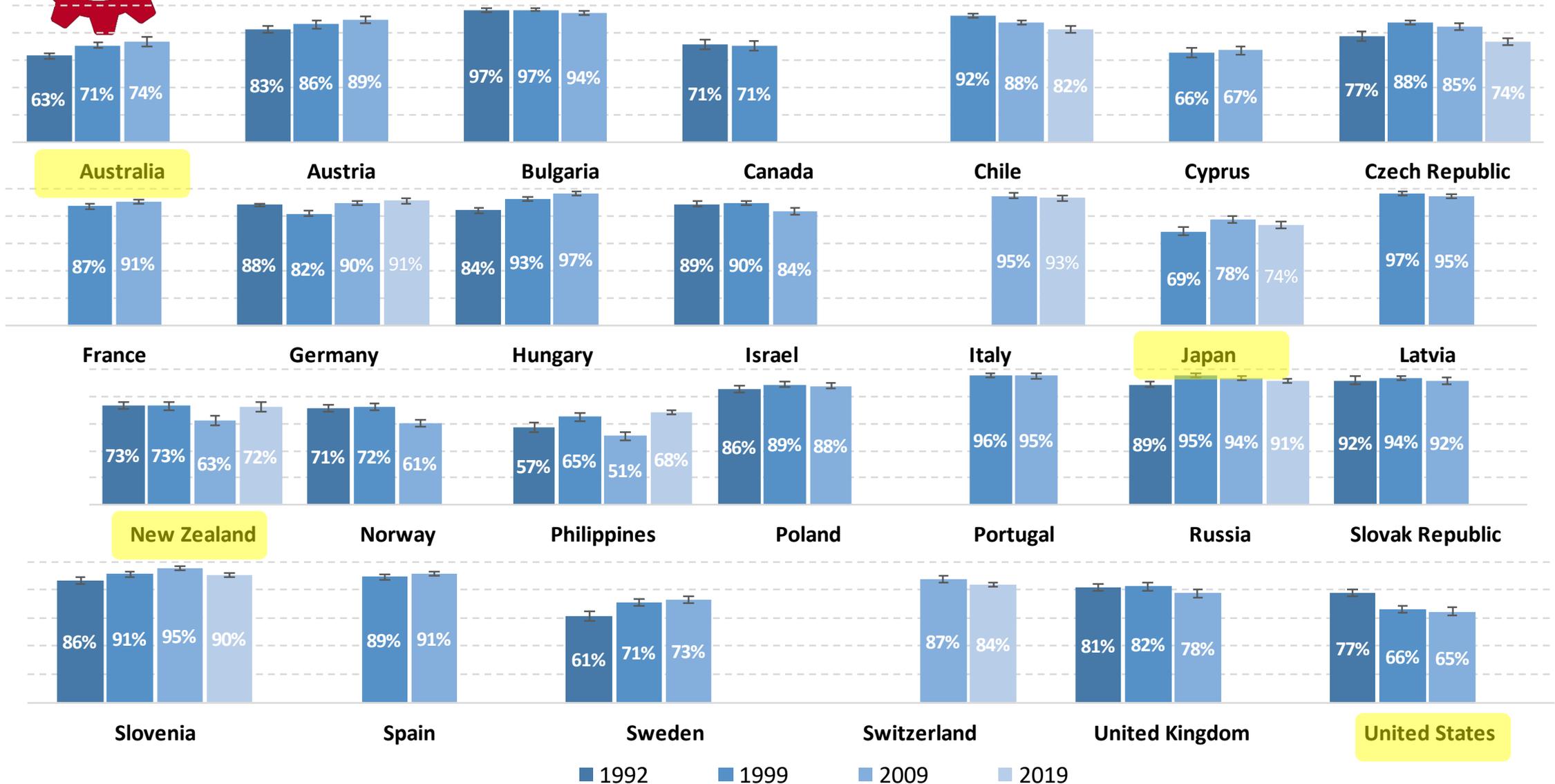


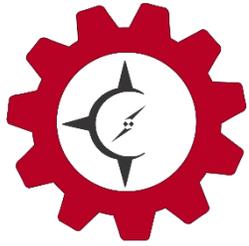
Proportions believing that MPs do try to keep election promises



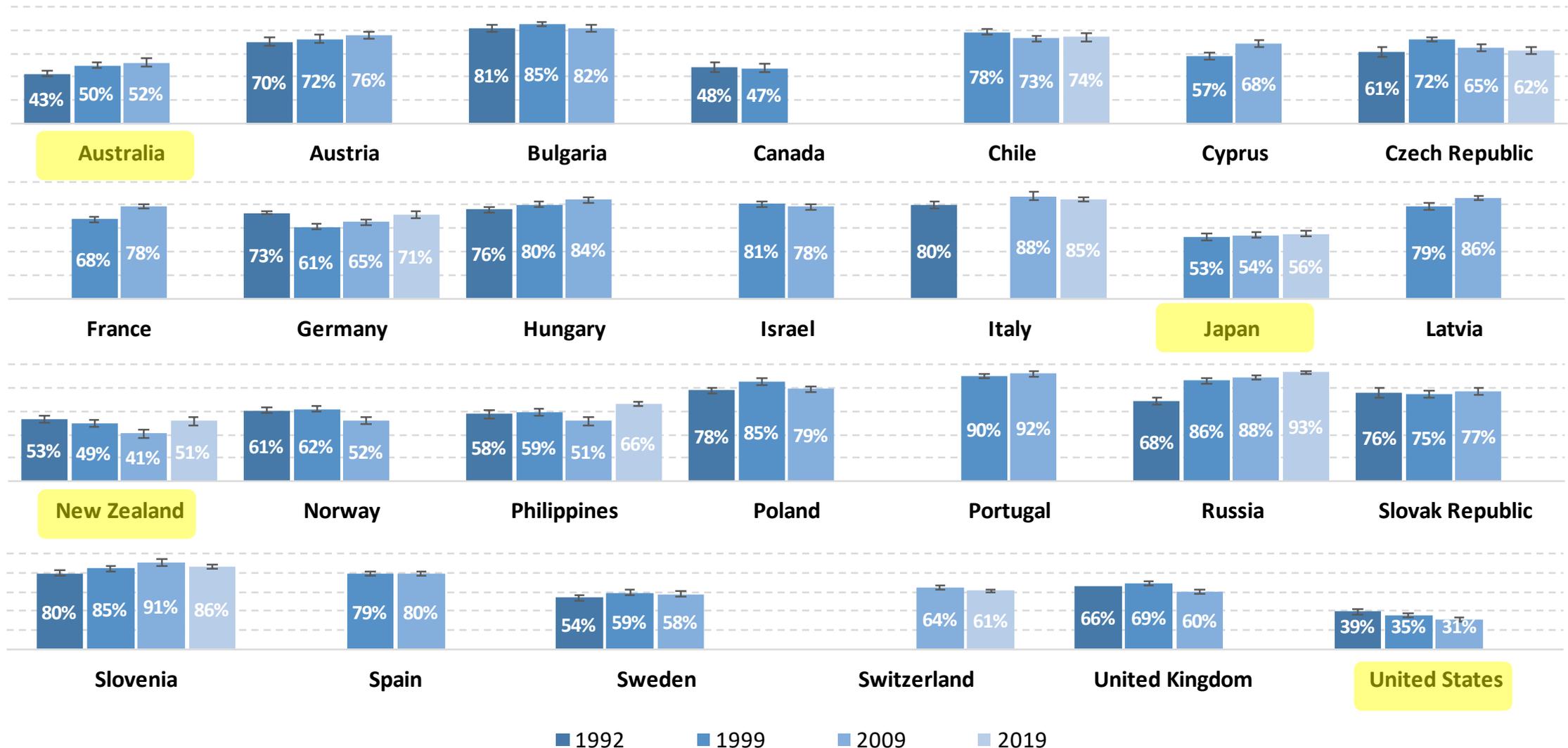


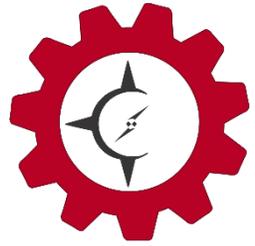
Proportions believing that the differences in income in their countries were too large





Proportions believing it is the government's responsibility to reduce the income gap

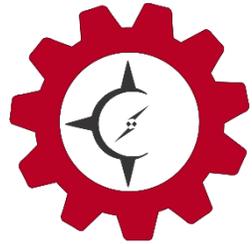




Closing thoughts



- ISSP datasets contain a wealth of useful variables not available in other social surveys in New Zealand
- A cumulative NZ-specific database will be instrumental for social science research



References

- ⚙ Chancel L, Piketty T, Saez E, Zucman G (2022). *World Inequality Report 2022*. World Inequality Lab. <https://wir2022.wid.world>
- ⚙ Greaves L, Oldfield L, von Randow M, Sibley C, Milne B (2021). How low can we go? Declining survey response rates to New Zealand electoral roll mail surveys over three decades. *Political Science* **72**(3), doi:[10.1080/00323187.2021.1898995](https://doi.org/10.1080/00323187.2021.1898995)
- ⚙ Kolandai K, Milne B, von Randow M (2022). *Beliefs about complete law abidance reported in the ISSP Role of Government module in 1996, 2006 and 2016: Considering the hypotheses on drivers*. COMPASS Research Centre, University of Auckland. <https://cdn.auckland.ac.nz/assets/auckland/arts/our-research/research-institutes-centres-groups/compass/surveys/ISSP-role-of-government-trends.pdf>
- ⚙ Kolandai K, von Randow M, Milne B (2022). *Cross-national and cross-time comparisons of public perceptions about social inequality and social conflicts*. COMPASS Research Centre, University of Auckland. <https://cdn.auckland.ac.nz/assets/auckland/arts/our-research/research-institutes-centres-groups/compass/surveys/ISSP-social-inequality-trends.pdf>