

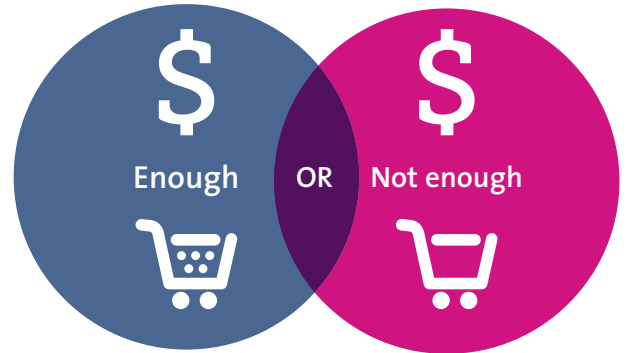
Perceptions of income adequacy by low income families in New Zealand

in New Zealand

THE ISSUE

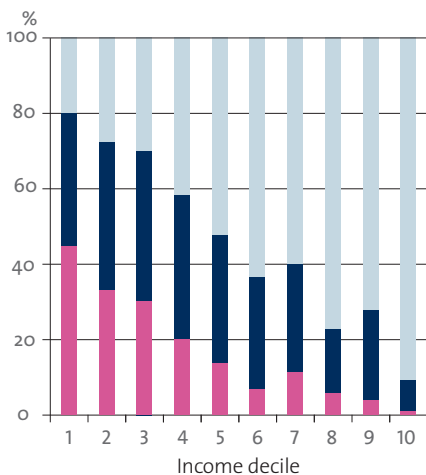


Many low income New Zealand families say that their income meets their everyday needs. Researchers talked to low income families earning between \$22,000 and \$55,000 to learn what is behind judging their income to be 'enough' or 'not enough'.



MORE THAN **1/2**

of families in the bottom income decile (decile 1), say that their income meets their needs according to Household Economic Survey data.



KEY:
■ Enough or more than enough
■ Only just enough
■ Not enough

Unexpected expenses and chance events can cause 'enough' families to have 'not enough' income

“ One of my whānau dying would be it for me ”



“ If you do end up in debt you've gotta have a plan on how to get out of it ”

Families may not be able to afford the costs of chance events and may need support to have 'enough' income



NOT ENOUGH

FAMILIES REPORTING 'NOT ENOUGH' INCOME TEND TO:

- receive a government benefit
- have unpredictable income
- rent their home
- juggle expenses



ENOUGH

FAMILIES REPORTING 'ENOUGH' INCOME TEND TO:

- have paid employment and a regular income
- own their home
- have financial planning skills
- have confidence in their ability to manage

