



John Key MP
Leader of the Opposition

John Key is Leader of the National Party and brings his own inclusive and aspirational approach to politics.

John grew up in Auckland and Christchurch. After graduating from Canterbury University with a Bachelor of Commerce degree, he began a career in investment banking in the mid-1980s, working at Elders Finance and then Bankers' Trust. After 10 years working in New Zealand he joined Merrill Lynch's investment banking arm, working in Singapore, London, New York and Sydney. During this time, John managed a number of business units including global foreign exchange and European bond and derivative trading. In 1999 John was invited to join the Foreign Exchange Committee of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and undertook management studies at Harvard University in Boston.

In 2001, John returned to New Zealand to raise his family and fulfil a long-held ambition to stand for Parliament for the National Party. He won the Helensville seat in the 2002 election and became Deputy Finance spokesman and then Finance spokesman prior to the 2005 election. He was elected Leader of the National Party in November 2006.

Since becoming Leader, John has focused the party on developing policies that will make this country more prosperous, and will give all New Zealanders the opportunity to make the most of themselves.