

Outcome of General Election could spark emigration

reallymoving.com survey of movers shows the outcome of next General Election could spark emigration

- **One in ten people would look to move abroad if they did not like the result of May's General Election**
- **Over a third of which (36%) said they would look to move abroad if UKIP came to power – the highest out of any political party**
- **The perceived cost of moving has put off 46% of people from taking the plunge – however, 64% of people grossly over-estimated the cost, as calculated by the International Moving Cost Calculator**

New research carried out by reallymoving.com, the UK's leading provider of instant online quotes for moving services, covering over 1,000 people, has found that one in ten people would consider moving abroad if they did not like the results of the forthcoming General Election.

The findings also revealed that the political party most likely to drive people away from the UK is UKIP at 36%, followed by the Conservative Party at 30% and the Labour Party in third place with just over a fifth of respondents citing them as the reason for leaving the country. The party least likely to encourage a move abroad is was the Green Party.

Which party would make you most want to move abroad?

UKIP 36%



Conservative 30%



Labour 21%



Liberal Democrats 6%



SNP 4%



Green Party 3%



Rob Houghton, Director of reallymoving.com, comments:

“ While politicians are focused on immigration policy, it appears that emigration could be a likely outcome from the General Election, with one in 10 people voting with their passports!

It seems moving abroad is no longer a pipedream with the increased quality of mobile technology and social media allowing easy contact with family and friends and even the office. It's a tangible and achievable option.”

Barriers to moving abroad

When asked about what would be a barrier to moving abroad, 47% of respondents cited expensive medical care, but 46% were put off by moving costs. When asked how much they thought it would cost to move to Australia, 64% estimated it would be more than it actually is (between £3,900 and £4,900 for a typical 3 bed house) with 12% estimating it would cost over £15,000!

Which of the following would be a barrier to moving abroad?

Expensive medical care **47%**



Moving costs **46%**



Finding a job **45%**



Language difficulties **40%**



Red tape in buying a property **35%**



Unexpected taxes **19%**



Costly mortgages **14%**



Rob Houghton adds:

“ The advances in transportation and globalisation have led to a drop in cost of moving abroad, however, our survey clearly shows that most people are unaware of the true cost of moving: it is wrongly seen as a barrier to 46% of people. Our International Moving Cost Calculator is a free and instant tool for comparing the actual cost of moving by air, sea or road and dispelling these myths.”

Over one in ten (13%) of those surveyed are currently already thinking about moving abroad in the next three to five years, 95% of whom would move out of choice rather than necessity.

When asked what factors would trigger a move abroad, winning the lottery came in top (61%), followed by retirement (29%), then work relocation (25%).

Would you miss me?

When asked what they would miss the most if they moved abroad, 79% of people said they would miss their family, 46% would miss the NHS, 28% the native language and 24% the British sense of humour! The bastion of Britishness, the BBC, would be missed by 12%, while only 6% said they would hanker after British newspapers and Sunday opening.

What would you miss the most if you were to move abroad?

Family and friends 79%



NHS 46%



Native language 28%



The humour 24%



Food 23%



BBC 12%



History 10%



Takeaway restaurant 7%



Weather 7%



Sunday shop opening 6%



Newspapers 6%



Political stability 6%



The royal family 4%



When asked about what they wouldn't miss, 68% unsurprisingly said the weather, 47% said overcrowding and 45% would happily say goodbye to traffic.

What won't you miss if you were to move abroad?

Weather 68%



Over crowding 47%



Traffic 45%



Pollution 34%



Commuting 33%



CCTV / surveillance 15%



Food 8%

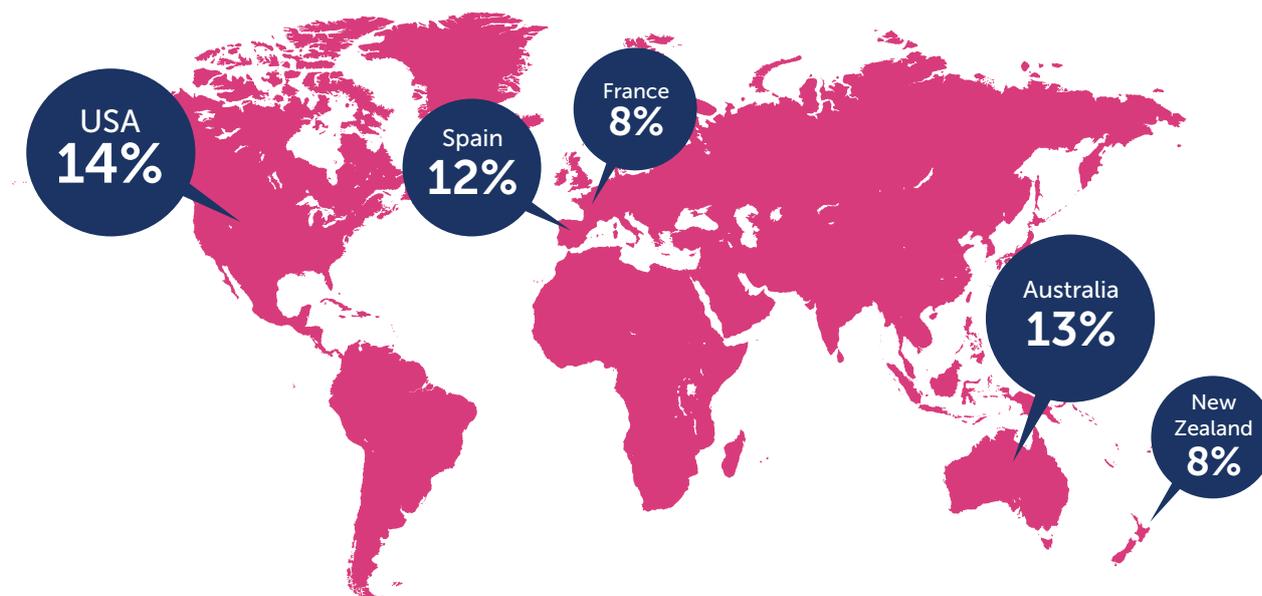


Where in the world?

The most popular desired destination to move to is the USA (14%), closely followed by Australia (13%) and then Spain (12%). New Zealand and France come in fourth and fifth place respectively with 8%.

When asked where they believe most people move to, 60% thought Spain, 23% said Australia, with 11% believing it was France.

Perhaps as a result of the Euro crisis, Greece and Portugal were among the least popular destinations for expats.



Notes to Editors

About reallymoving.com

reallymoving.com was launched in November 1999, and has become the UK's leading provider of free instant online quotes for home-moving services.

The site provides instant quotes for a variety of services including domestic removals, surveys, conveyancing solicitors, Energy Performance Certificates and Scottish Home Reports and a choice between local and national service providers.

In a UK first, reallymoving.com has recently launched an International Moving Cost Calculator, which is easy and free to use and provides immediate moving cost estimates to and from almost any location in the world without requiring any personal details.

For more information visit www.reallymoving.com/international-removals

For further information please contact Rob Houghton on 01727 238010