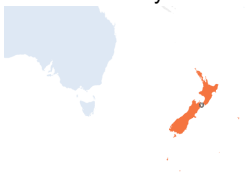
New Zealand

Introduction

New Zealand is an island country located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean comprising two main landmasses (the North Island and the South Island) and numerous smaller islands. The geography of New Zealand is highly varied, from snowcapped mountains to lowland plains. The government system is a parliamentary democracy and a Commonwealth realm; the chief of state is the queen of the United Kingdom, and the head of government is the prime minister. New Zealand has a free market economy in which the prices of goods and services are determined in a free price system. New Zealand is a member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).



Location: Oceania

Capital City: Wellington (+12 GMT)

Chief of State: King Charles III represented by Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Chris Hipkins

Currency: New Zealand dollar (NZD)

Major Languages: English (de facto official) 95.4%, Maori (de jure official) 4%, Samoan 2.2%, Northern Chinese 2%, Hindi 1.5%, French 1.2%, Yue 1.1%, New Zealand Sign Language (de jure official) .5%, other or not stated 17.2%

Primary Religions: Christian 37.3% (Catholic 10.1%, Anglican 6.8%, Presbyterian and Congregational 5.2%, Pentecostal 1.8%, Methodist 1.6%, Mormon 1.2%, other 10.7%), Hindu 2.7%, Maori 1.3%, Muslim, 1.3%, Buddhist 1.1%, other religion 1.6% (includes Judaism, Spiritualism and New Age religions, Baha'i, Asian religions other than Buddhism), no religion 48.6%, objected to answering 6.7%

Calling Code: 64

Voltage: 230

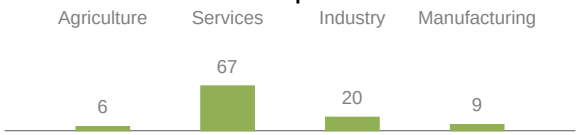
Key Websites

Main Government Page:	govt.nz
Commerce Ministry:	mbie.govt.nz
Export Promotion Agency:	nzte.govt.nz
Investment Promotion Agency:	nzte.govt.nz

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	High Income
Level of Development:	Developed
GDP, PPP (current international $):	$266.28 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %):	2.16% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international $):	$51,966.86 (2022)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	9.47% (2020)
Current account balance (BoP, current US$):	-$21.26 billion (2022)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	7.17% (2022)
Labor force, total:	2,955,087 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	3.25% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US$):	$66.57 billion (2021)
Exports of goods and services (current US$):	$56.61 billion (2021)

GDP Composition %



**Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

Rankings

Index	Rank
Corruption Perceptions Index	1 / 178
EY Globalization Index	21 / 60
Global Competitiveness Index	19 / 141
Global Enabling Trade Index	18 / 136
Global Services Location Index	52 / 60
Index of Economic Freedom	5 / 176
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	15 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	35 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	30 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	17 / 139
Open Budget Index	3 / 114

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: A2 - The political and economic situation is good. A basically stable and efficient business environment nonetheless leaves room for improvement. Corporate default probability is low on average.

Business Climate rating: A1 - The business environment is very good. Corporate financial information is available and reliable. Debt collection is efficient. Institutional quality is very good. Intercompany transactions run smoothly in environments rated A1.

Strengths

- Proximity to Asia and Australia
- Attractive tourist destination
- Large and competitive agricultural sector (world's leading exporter of dairy products)
- Contained public debt
- High quality of life
- Excellent business environment

Weaknesses

- Island nation
- Reliance on foreign investment and capital
- High household and corporate debt levels (especially in agriculture)
- Reliance on Chinese demand
- Shortage of skilled labor
- Lack of R&D and low labor productivity growth compared to other OECD countries
- Environmental issues, notably due to the importance of the intensive agriculture
- Socio-economic inequalities between Maoris and non-Maoris despite Prime Minister Ardern's commitments on this issue

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