

大成 DENTONS

KENSINGTON SWAN

Introduction

New Zealand at a glance

2021



New Zealand is a small country, made up of two main islands, with a total land area of 268,021 square kilometres. It is similar in size to Japan or Britain with a population of 5.1 million.¹ The official languages are English, Maori and New Zealand sign language. Wellington is the capital city, while Auckland is the most populous.

New Zealand has a common law system inherited from England. The system is similar to that found in many British Commonwealth countries and comprises of statute law made by Parliament, supplemented by a collection of common law or case law made by the courts.

The New Zealand Court system has four tiers; District Court; High Court; Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. In addition to the Courts, New Zealand has a large number of specialist tribunals and bodies.

Due to its geographic location and the size of its population, New Zealand is a trade dependent economy, is reliant on Foreign Direct Investment and is a big proponent of a free and open market.² Around 60% of its economic activity is made up from international trade.³

Key major industries are agriculture (pastoral farming), horticulture and tourism, with technology as a fast growing emerging sector. On a global scale New Zealand is the 12th largest agriculture exporter by value, the 2nd largest dairy exporter by value, the biggest sheep meat exporter and second biggest wool exporter. Other major industries include forestry, natural resources and fishing.⁴

Vital statistics



Population
5.1 million

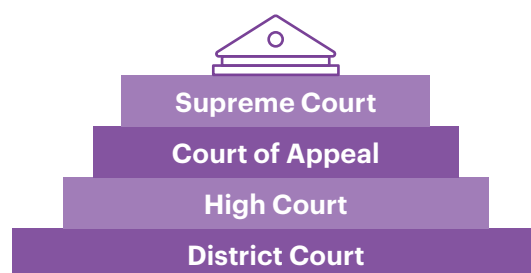


Area
268,021 km²

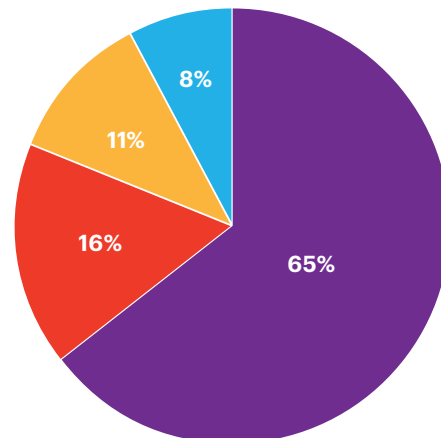


GDP
NZD\$322 bn
As at December 2020⁵

Court system



New Zealand Sectors by GDP (2019)⁶



- Services
- Government, education and health
- Manufacturing
- Primary (agriculture, mining, fishing, forestry)

New Zealand is ranked #1

in the world for ease of doing business, starting a business, getting credit and registering property.⁷



¹ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/indicators/population-of-nz>

² <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/nz-trade-policy/>

³ <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/nz-trade-policy/>

⁴ <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/nz-trade-policy/>

⁵ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/indicators/gross-domestic-product-gdp>

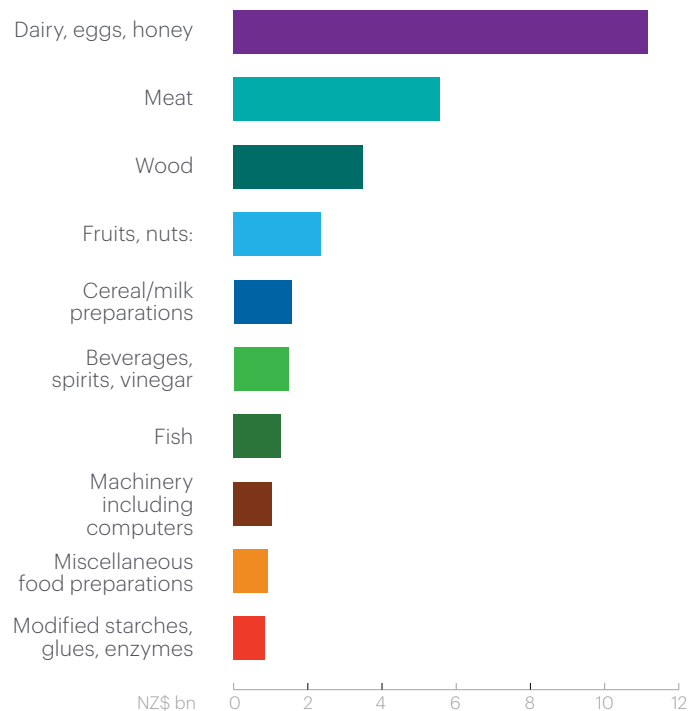
⁶ <http://sectorsdashboard.mbie.govt.nz>

⁷ <https://www.doingbusiness.org/en/ranking>

Numerous factors contribute to the good economic and investment opportunities in New Zealand:

- a stable and globally competitive economy
- wide range of free trade agreements
- pro-competitive regulation
- a simple and efficient tax regime
- an open political system
- the New Zealand Government finances research and development
- the New Zealand Government implements trade and immigration policies that encourage foreign investment
- a highly advantageous time zone for doing business globally
- close geographic proximity to Asia
- temperate climate, high rainfall, clean waters and fertile land conducive to agriculture and horticulture
- skilled workforce
- low costs to do business; i.e. export compliance costs, the average wage and lower facility costs, and the small domestic market there is an ideal test bed for new products.

New Zealand's Top 10 Exports in 2019⁸



Due to location and population size New Zealand is a trade dependent economy and reliant on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Around 60% of its economy is made up from international trade.

FDI totalled NZ\$113 bn in 2019⁹



⁸<http://www.worldstopexports.com/new-zealands-top-10-exports/>

⁹<https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/foreign-direct-investment-in-new-zealand-continues-to-increase>

¹⁰Source: Forbes Best Countries for Business, 2019

Dentons Kensington Swan 'provides excellent technical legal advice, while being commercially pragmatic'.

Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2021

**For more
information contact**



Charles Spillane

Chief Executive

D +64 9 375 1111

M +64 27 499 4895

E charles.spillane@dentons.com



Hayden Wilson

Chair & Partner

D +64 4 915 0782

M +64 21 342 947

E hayden.wilson@dentons.com

[dentons.co.nz](https://www.dentons.co.nz)

© 2021 Dentons. Dentons is a global legal practice providing client services worldwide through its member firms and affiliates. This publication is not designed to provide legal or other advice and you should not take, or refrain from taking, action based on its content. Please see [dentons.com](https://www.dentons.com) for Legal Notices.