



New Zealand
in the **OECD**





It gives me much pleasure to add *New Zealand in the OECD* to our portfolio of statistical publications.

This booklet offers a story of who New Zealanders are, within the context of other OECD countries. It provides an overview of a range of key economic and social indicators which are of broad general interest.

I trust you will find this publication a useful resource both for discussion and in your work.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Brian Pink
Government Statistician



Preface





Contents

Introduction	2
Population	4
Immigration	6
Employment	8
Unemployment	10
Ageing	12
Health	14
Justice	16
Education	18
Access to Computers and the Internet	20
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	22
GDP Per Capita	24
Prices	26
International Trade	28
Government Spending and Receipts	30
Government and the Economy	32
Official Overseas Aid	34
Research and Development	36
Energy	38
Environment	40



Introduction

New Zealand in the OECD provides an easily understood statistical comparison of New Zealand with other Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries. Media, government, business and the general public make frequent use of official statistics to compare New Zealand's performance with that of other nations. This publication contains statistical indicators for a number of subjects across the economic, social and environmental spheres.

The selection of indicators was based on three criteria. Firstly, the data needed to be available on an internationally comparable basis for all, or most, countries of the OECD. Secondly, the indicator should be generally recognised as an accepted statistical indicator of social, economic or environmental standards. And thirdly, the indicator should have some perceived interest to the general public.

The OECD countries were selected as providing the most appropriate comparisons with New Zealand for the selected indicators. This was because: in general they have the most similar economic and social structure to that of New Zealand; frequent comparisons are already made between New Zealand and the OECD in both the public and private domain; and comparable data for OECD nations is readily available.

Although more recent data for New Zealand or other countries is available, the comparative nature of this booklet's data requires information from equivalent time periods.

Note: Please use this data with caution. Differences in collection methods and treatments between countries mean that data is not always precisely comparable.

New Zealand in the OECD is also available through the Statistics New Zealand website (www.stats.govt.nz), with links to related material. For further information go to www.oecd.org, which contains a number of statistical databases about these topics.

What is the OECD?

The OECD groups 30 member countries in a forum to discuss, develop and refine economic and social policy. Members compare experiences, seek answers to common problems, and work to co-ordinate domestic and international policies to help members and non-members deal with an increasingly globalised world. The organisation is internationally recognised as a reliable and comprehensive source of comparable economic and social data.

The OECD consists of like-minded countries, with the 30 member states all sharing a commitment to a market economy. The organisation began in 1961 as a group of European and North American nations and has since expanded to include Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Mexico, Korea and four former communist nations, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and the Slovak Republic.

The similarity of OECD nations, combined with the availability of statistical information, makes the OECD group a sound basis of comparison for New Zealand.

OECD members

Australia	Finland	Ireland	Netherlands	Spain
Austria	France	Italy	New Zealand	Sweden
Belgium	Germany	Japan	Norway	Switzerland
Canada	Greece	Korea	Poland	Turkey
Czech Republic	Hungary	Luxembourg	Portugal	United Kingdom
Denmark	Iceland	Mexico	Slovak Republic	United States

Population

Population Density (Inhabitants per km²) 2003

Korea	482
Netherlands	390
Belgium	341
Japan	338
United Kingdom	243
Germany	231
Italy	191
Switzerland	177
Luxembourg	167
Czech Republic	129
Denmark	125
Poland	122
Portugal	113
Slovak Republic	110
France	109
Hungary	109
Austria	97
Turkey	91
Greece	83
Spain	83
Ireland	57
Mexico	51
OECD	33
United States	31
Sweden	20
Finland	15
New Zealand	15
Norway	14
Canada	3
Iceland	3
Australia	3

Source: OECD Factbook 2005

New Zealand is a relatively sparsely populated country by OECD standards. Its 2003 population of 4.0 million exceeded only those of Luxembourg and Iceland. Among other OECD countries, only the Scandinavian nations of Norway, Finland and Denmark, and Ireland are of comparable population size.

Fertility is one of the main components of population change. In most OECD countries, including New Zealand, fertility levels have declined over recent decades and are now below replacement levels. New Zealand's total fertility rate in 2003 was just under two births per woman, compared with over three births per woman 30 years earlier. Despite this fall, New Zealand's rate in 2003 was the fifth-highest in the OECD, just above Iceland and behind only Mexico, Turkey, the United States and Ireland.

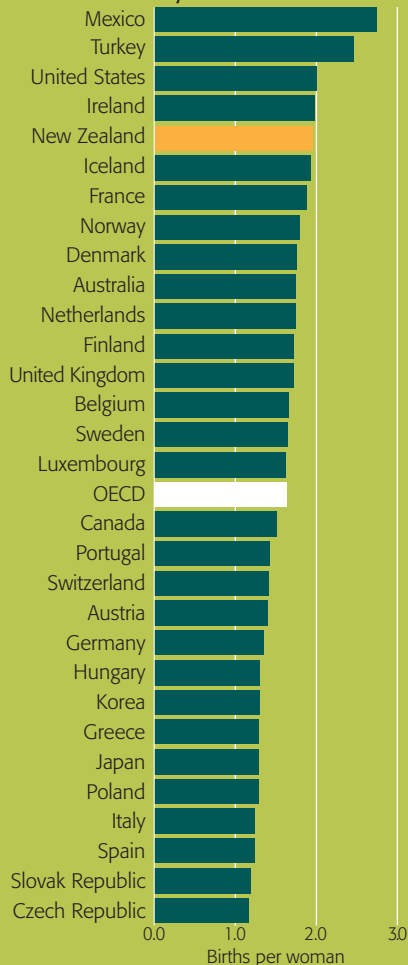
However, in terms of land area, New Zealand ranks fifteenth among the 30 OECD countries, with an area of 271,000 square kilometres. Consequently, its population density is relatively low, at 15 people per square kilometre – less than half the OECD average and higher than only Australia, Iceland, Canada and Norway. Its population density is five times greater than its neighbour Australia, but considerably less than the United Kingdom, a country of similar land area which has 243 people per square kilometre.

New Zealand has low population density

Total Fertility Rate

(Average births per woman over reproductive life)

Latest year available



Source: UN Demographic Yearbook 2002 and statistical yearbooks of individual countries

Population and Area

	Population (million)		Area (000) km ²
	1993	2003	
United States	258.1	291.0	9,372
Japan	124.8	127.6	378
Mexico	86.6	102.7	1,996
Germany	81.2	82.5	357
Turkey	59.5	70.7	781
United Kingdom	57.7	59.4	245
France	57.5	59.8	549
Italy	56.4	57.5	301
Korea	44.2	47.9	99
Spain	39.2	41.9	505
OECD	35.6	38.4	1,160
Poland	38.5	38.2	313
Canada	28.7	31.6	9,976
Australia	17.7	19.9	7,687
Netherlands	15.3	16.2	42
Greece	10.4	11.0	132
Belgium	10.1	10.4	31
Portugal	10.0	10.4	92
Czech Republic	10.3	10.2	79
Hungary	10.4	10.1	93
Sweden	8.7	9.0	450
Austria	8.0	8.1	84
Switzerland	6.9	7.3	41
Denmark	5.2	5.4	43
Slovak Republic	5.3	5.4	49
Finland	5.1	5.2	338
Norway	4.3	4.6	324
Ireland	3.6	4.0	70
New Zealand	3.6	4.0	271
Luxembourg	0.4	0.5	3
Iceland	0.3	0.3	103

Source: OECD Factbook 2005



Immigration

Foreign-born Residents

Percentage of total population
2001/02

Luxembourg	33.0
Australia	23.2
Switzerland	22.4
New Zealand	19.5
Canada	18.2
Germany	12.5
Sweden	11.8
United States	11.8
Austria	11.0
Belgium	10.7
Netherlands	10.6
Ireland	10.4
Greece	10.3
OECD	10.2
France ⁽¹⁾	10.0
United Kingdom	8.3
Norway	6.9
Portugal	6.3
Denmark	6.2
Spain	5.3
Czech Republic	4.5
Hungary	3.0
Finland	2.9
Slovak Republic	2.5
Poland	2.1
Turkey	1.9
Mexico	0.5

Source: OECD Factbook 2005

(1) Data is from 1999.

Note: Data not available for Korea, Japan, Italy and Iceland.

In 2001/02, 19.5 percent of people in New Zealand had been born overseas. Although this was well above the OECD average of 10.2 percent, it was significantly lower than the percentage recorded in Luxembourg, where the foreign-born population accounted for 33.0 percent of its total population. New Zealand had a similar proportion of foreign-born people to Australia, Switzerland, and Canada.

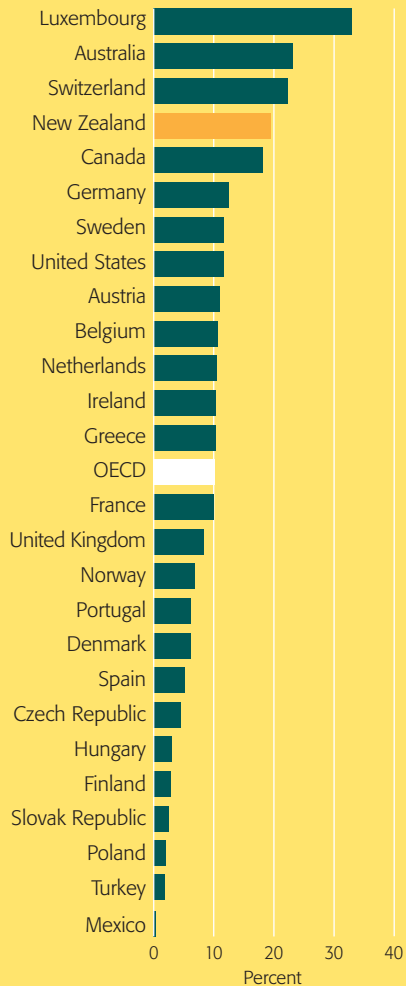
The foreign-born population varied widely among OECD countries in 2001/02, from a low of 0.5 percent in Mexico to a high of 33.0 percent in Luxembourg. Most central and eastern European countries had less than 5.0 percent of foreign-born people in their populations.

A large group of OECD countries had around 10 to 12 percent of their population born elsewhere. All of these countries, with the exception of the United States, were in Europe.

For many OECD countries international migration gains and losses are changeable over time. New Zealand had a net migration gain of 8.7 people per 1,000 population in 2003, whereas from 1990 to 2003 the average net migration gain was just 3.3 per 1,000 population. Over this same period, Luxembourg, Canada and Australia recorded the highest average net migration gains: 8.8, 5.6 and 5.1 people per 1,000 population, respectively. Most OECD countries had much lower average net migration gains of less than 4 people per 1,000 population, with the average for 28 countries being a gain of 2.6 per 1,000 population.

One in five New Zealanders born overseas

Foreign-born Residents Percentage of total population 2001/02



Average Migration

(Net migration per 1,000 population)
1990–2003

Luxembourg	8.8
Canada	5.6
Australia	5.1
Germany	4.9
Spain	4.7
Switzerland	4.1
Greece	3.8
United States	3.5
Netherlands	3.5
Austria	3.4
New Zealand	3.3
Ireland	3.2
Sweden	2.6
OECD	2.6
Italy	2.3
Norway	2.3
Denmark	2.2
Turkey	1.8
Hungary	1.5
Belgium	1.5
United Kingdom	1.4
Finland	1.0
France	1.0
Czech Republic	0.8
Iceland	0.5
Slovak Republic	0.3
Japan	0.0
Portugal	-0.2
Poland	-0.4

Source: OECD Factbook 2005

Notes: Data is not available for Korea and Mexico. Averages for Greece, Austria, Ireland, Portugal, Belgium, United Kingdom and Japan are from available data from 1990–2001.



Employment

Employment Rate

(Percentage of 15–64 year olds
in employment)

2004

Iceland	82.8
Switzerland	77.4
Denmark	76.0
Norway	75.6
New Zealand	73.5
Sweden	73.5
Netherlands	73.1
United Kingdom	72.7
Canada	72.6
United States	71.2
Australia	69.5
Japan	68.7
Portugal	67.8
Finland	67.2
Austria	66.5
Germany	65.5
Ireland	65.5
OECD	65.3
Czech Republic	64.2
Korea	63.6
France	62.8
Spain	62.0
Luxembourg	61.6
Mexico	60.8
Belgium	60.5
Greece	59.6
Italy	57.4
Slovak Republic	57.0
Hungary	56.8
Poland	51.9
Turkey	46.1

Source: OECD Employment Outlook 2005

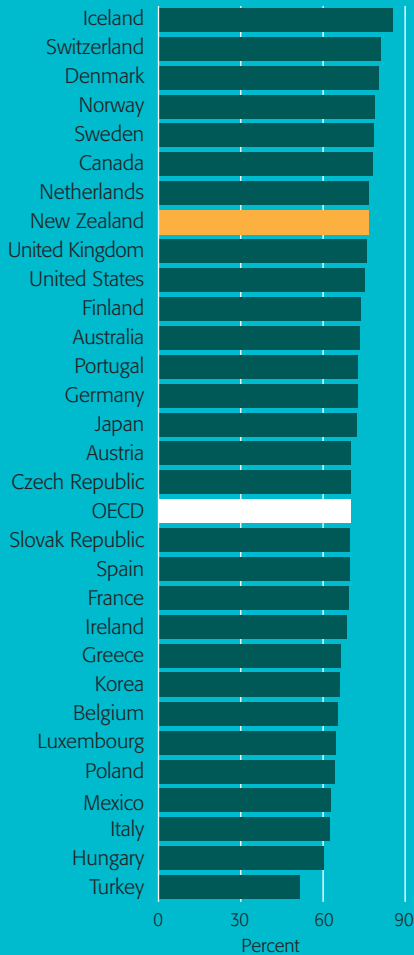
The proportion of the working-age population that is employed in New Zealand is higher than the average proportion for other OECD countries. In 2004, 73.5 percent of New Zealanders aged 15 to 64 years were employed, compared with an OECD average of 65.3 percent. New Zealand had the fifth-equal-highest employment rate in the OECD. The employment rates for women were the eighth-highest, while men had the fourth-highest in the OECD (66.5 percent and 80.8 percent, respectively).

The labour force participation rate measures the proportion of people of working age who are in the labour force, either employed or unemployed. In 2004, more than three-quarters (76.6 percent) of New Zealanders aged 15 to 64 years were in the labour force, compared with an OECD average of 70.1 percent. The participation rates for New Zealand women were the eighth-highest in the OECD (69.6 percent), while New Zealand men had the seventh-highest rate (83.8 percent).

In 2004, New Zealand had the sixth-highest proportion of part-time workers in the OECD, just below the United Kingdom. In this same year, 22.0 percent of New Zealand's employed people worked fewer than 30 hours per week. This included 35.4 percent of women and 10.7 percent of men. The incidence of part-time work varied widely within the OECD, from 35.0 percent of the workforce in the Netherlands to just 2.7 percent in the Slovak Republic.

New Zealanders likely to be employed

Labour Force Participation Rate (Percentage of 15–64 year olds in the labour force) 2004



Source: OECD Employment Outlook 2005

Part-time Employment Rate (Part-time employment as percentage of all employment) 2004

	Males	Females	Total
Netherlands	15.1	60.2	35.0
Australia	16.1	40.8	27.1
Japan	14.2	41.7	25.5
Switzerland	8.1	45.3	24.9
United Kingdom	10.0	40.4	24.1
New Zealand	10.7	35.4	22.0
Norway	10.3	33.2	21.1
Germany	6.3	37.0	20.1
Iceland ⁽¹⁾	10.2	31.2	20.1
Ireland	6.9	35.1	18.7
Canada	10.9	27.2	18.5
Belgium	6.3	34.1	18.3
Denmark	11.6	24.3	17.5
Austria	3.7	29.6	15.5
OECD	7.5	25.4	15.2
Mexico	8.1	27.6	15.1
Italy	5.9	28.8	14.9
Luxembourg	1.7	33.3	14.6
Sweden	8.5	20.8	14.4
France	4.8	23.6	13.4
United States	8.1	18.8	13.2
Poland	7.5	17.5	12.0
Finland	7.9	15.0	11.3
Portugal	5.8	14.0	9.6
Korea	5.9	11.9	8.4
Spain	2.6	17.2	8.3
Turkey	3.7	14.8	6.6
Greece	3.1	10.9	6.0
Hungary	2.2	5.1	3.6
Czech Republic	1.5	5.2	3.1
Slovak Republic	1.3	4.5	2.7

Source: OECD Employment Outlook 2005
(1) Data for Iceland from 2002.



Unemployment

Unemployment Rate

(Percentage of total labour force unemployed)

2004

Poland	18.8
Slovak Republic	18.0
Spain	10.8
Greece	10.5
France	9.7
Germany	9.5
Finland	8.9
Czech Republic	8.3
Italy	8.0
Belgium	7.8
Canada	7.2
OECD	6.9
Portugal	6.7
Sweden	6.4
Hungary	5.9
Australia	5.5
United States	5.5
Denmark	5.4
Japan	4.7
Netherlands	4.6
United Kingdom	4.6
Austria	4.5
Ireland	4.5
Norway	4.4
Switzerland	4.4
Luxembourg	4.2
New Zealand	3.9
Korea	3.7

Source: OECD Employment Outlook 2005

Note: No data available for Iceland, Mexico and Turkey.

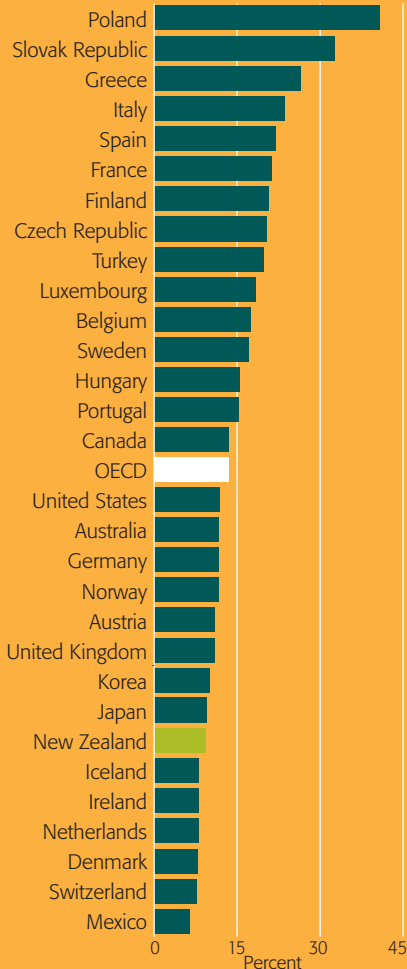
New Zealand's unemployment rate of 3.9 percent in 2004 was below the OECD average of 6.9 percent. New Zealand's rate was the second-lowest among 27 OECD nations, where rates ranged from 3.7 percent in Korea to 18.8 percent in Poland.

Youth unemployment in New Zealand is slightly below the OECD average. In 2004, 9.3 percent of New Zealand's 15 to 24 year olds in the labour force were unemployed, compared with an OECD average of 13.4 percent. New Zealand's youth unemployment rate was the seventh-lowest among OECD nations, where rates ranged from 6.4 percent in Mexico to 40.8 percent in Poland.

Of New Zealand's unemployed population in 2004, 23.9 percent had been unemployed for six months or longer, and 11.7 percent for a year or longer. These figures were lower than the OECD averages of 47.1 percent being unemployed for six months or more, and 32.0 percent for a year or more. New Zealand's proportion of long-term unemployed over one year was sixth-lowest among those OECD nations for which data was available.

Unemployment low in New Zealand

Youth Unemployment Rate (Percentage of 15–24 year olds in the labour force but unemployed) 2004



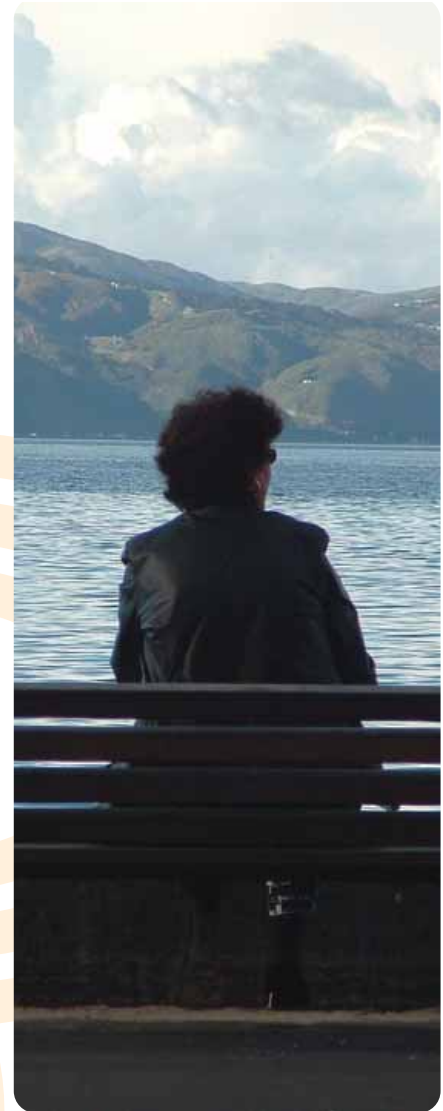
Source: OECD Employment Outlook 2005

Incidence of Long-term Unemployment (Percentage of total unemployment) 2004

	6 months and over	12 months and over
Slovak Republic	77.0	60.6
Greece	74.4	54.7
Czech Republic	71.6	51.8
Germany	67.6	51.8
Italy	65.5	49.7
Belgium	68.9	49.6
Poland	68.7	47.9
Hungary	61.7	45.1
Portugal	65.0	43.2
France	61.3	41.6
Turkey	56.9	39.2
Spain	58.0	37.7
Ireland	55.0	34.3
Japan	50.0	33.7
Switzerland	53.9	33.5
Netherlands	55.1	32.5
OECD	47.1	32.0
Austria	41.0	24.5
Finland	40.8	23.4
Denmark	45.0	22.6
United Kingdom	38.8	21.4
Australia	36.8	20.7
Sweden	37.3	18.9
United States	21.9	12.7
New Zealand	23.9	11.7
Iceland	21.3	11.2
Canada	17.7	9.5
Norway	25.3	9.2
Korea	11.6	1.1
Mexico	5.1	1.1

Source: OECD Employment Outlook 2005

Note: No data available for Luxembourg.



Ageing

Ageing Population

(Percentage of people aged 65 and over)

2000

Italy	18.1
Japan	17.4
Greece	17.4
Sweden	17.3
Spain	16.9
Belgium	16.8
Germany	16.4
France	16.1
United Kingdom	15.6
Portugal	15.5
Austria	15.5
Switzerland	15.3
Norway	15.2
Finland	14.9
Denmark	14.8
Hungary	14.7
Luxembourg	14.3
Czech Republic	13.8
OECD	13.8
Netherlands	13.6
United States	12.6
Canada	12.5
Australia	12.3
Poland	12.2
New Zealand	11.8
Iceland	11.6
Slovak Republic	11.4
Ireland	11.2
Korea	7.2
Turkey	5.4
Mexico	4.7

Source: OECD Factbook 2005

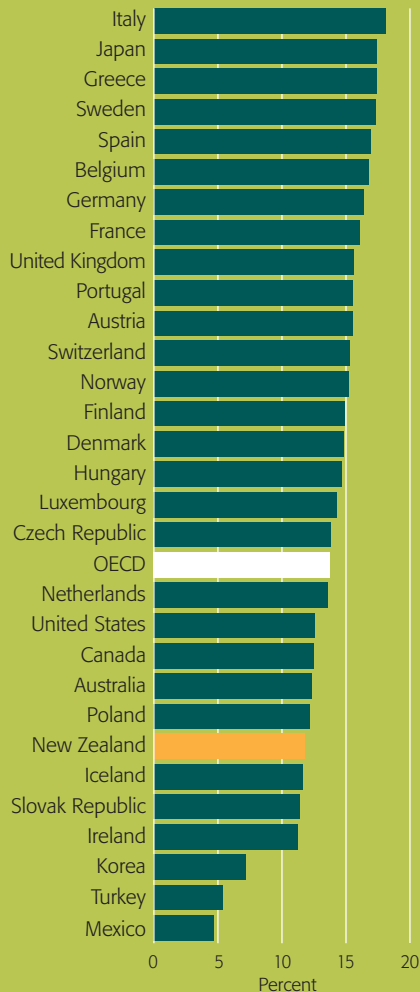
Population ageing, resulting from falling fertility levels and increasing life expectancy, is one of the most important issues facing OECD countries. Like most OECD members, New Zealand has an ageing population. Between 1990 and 2000, the proportion of the population aged 65 years and over grew from 11.1 percent to 11.8 percent. This proportion is similar to that for the United States, Canada, Australia, Poland, Iceland, the Slovak Republic and Ireland. However, it is much lower than that for Italy (18.1 percent), Japan (17.4 percent), Greece (17.4 percent) and Sweden (17.3 percent), and lower than the OECD average of 13.8 percent.

An ageing population results in there being proportionately fewer working-age people generating resources to support the increasing number of retired people. In New Zealand in 2000, there were 18 people aged 65 years and over for every 100 people aged 15 to 64 years. This was below the OECD average of 21. By 2050, New Zealand is projected to have 38 people aged 65 years and over per 100 people aged 15 to 64 years, compared with an OECD average of 47. Although this is a marked increase, New Zealand's elderly dependency ratio will remain well below those of countries such as Japan and Spain, where there are projected to be around 70 older people for every 100 working-age people by 2050.

New Zealand has low proportion of older people

Ageing Population

(Percentage of people aged 65 and over)
2000



Elderly Dependency Ratio

(People aged 65 and over per 100 people
aged 15–64 years)

	2000	2050
Sweden	27	47
Italy	27	65
Belgium	26	47
Greece	26	62
Japan	25	72
Norway	24	44
France	24	46
United Kingdom	24	38
Germany	24	49
Switzerland	24	55
Spain	24	68
Portugal	23	53
Austria	23	55
Denmark	22	42
Finland	22	46
Hungary	21	50
OECD	21	47
Luxembourg	20	35
Netherlands	20	42
Czech Republic	20	59
United States	19	32
Australia	18	40
New Zealand	18	38
Iceland	18	41
Canada	18	44
Poland	18	50
Ireland	17	41
Slovak Republic	16	47
Korea	10	55
Turkey	9	28
Mexico	8	32

Source: United Nations (2003), *World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision*



Health

Infant Mortality

(Deaths under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)

2002

Turkey	39.4
Mexico	21.4
Slovak Republic	7.6
Poland	7.5
Hungary	7.2
United States	6.8
OECD ⁽¹⁾	6.6
Korea ⁽²⁾	6.2
Greece	5.9
New Zealand	5.6
United Kingdom	5.3
Canada	5.2
Ireland	5.1
Luxembourg	5.1
Australia	5.0
Netherlands	5.0
Portugal	5.0
Belgium	4.9
Italy	4.7
Switzerland	4.5
Denmark	4.4
Germany	4.3
Czech Republic	4.2
Austria	4.1
France	4.1
Norway	3.9
Spain	3.4
Finland	3.0
Japan	3.0
Sweden	2.8
Iceland	2.2

Source: OECD Factbook 2005, New Zealand data from Statistics New Zealand

(1) Excludes Korea.

(2) Data from 1999.

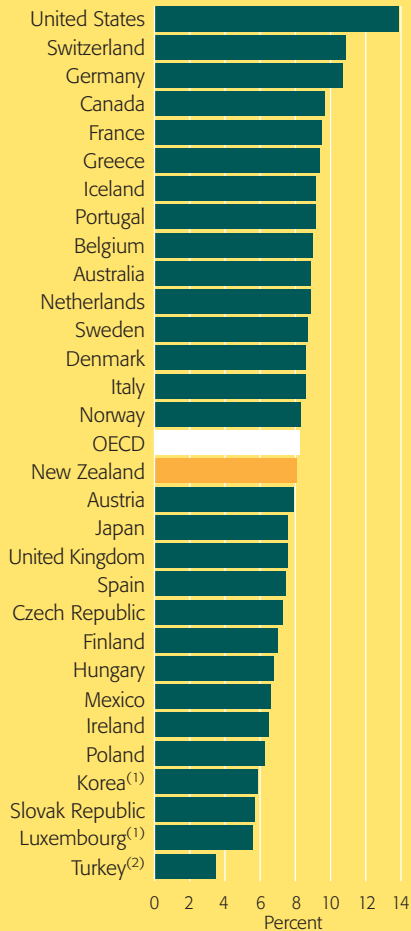
Falling infant mortality has been a feature in all OECD countries over recent decades. In 2002, New Zealand's infant mortality rate was 5.6 deaths of children under one year of age for every 1,000 live births. This was the ninth-highest among OECD nations, similar to the rates for Greece (5.9) and the United Kingdom (5.3), and well above the lowest rate of 2.2 in Iceland. Although the New Zealand figure was below the OECD average of 6.6, this average is inflated by relatively high rates of infant mortality in Turkey and Mexico.

In 2001, New Zealand's public expenditure on health was equivalent to 8.1 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), very similar to the OECD average of 8.3 percent, but well below the United States figure of 13.9 percent of GDP. This placed New Zealand sixteenth of 29 countries.

As infant mortality has declined in OECD countries, life expectancy has been increasing. New Zealand females born in 2002 could expect to live 81.2 years and New Zealand males 76.7 years. This was an increase of almost three years for females since 1990, and four years for males. In 2002, New Zealand females had the fifteenth-highest life expectancy in the OECD, while New Zealand males had the eighth-highest. For both sexes this was above the OECD average. New Zealand's life expectancy figures are similar to those for most western European nations.

Life expectancy grows in New Zealand

Public Expenditure on Health Percentage of GDP 2001



Source: OECD Health Data 2003 3rd Edition
 (1) Data from 2000.
 (2) Data from 1998.

Life Expectancy

(Years of expected life at birth)

	Females		Males	
	1990	2002	1990	2002
Japan	81.9	85.2	75.9	78.3
Spain	80.3	83.1	73.3	75.7
Switzerland	80.7	83.0	74.0	77.8
France	80.9	83.0	72.8	75.8
Italy	80.1	82.9	73.6	76.8
Australia	80.1	82.6	73.9	77.4
Iceland	80.5	82.3	75.4	78.5
Canada	80.8	82.2	74.4	77.1
Sweden	80.4	82.1	74.8	77.7
Austria	78.8	81.7	72.2	75.8
Norway	79.8	81.5	73.4	76.4
Finland	78.9	81.5	70.9	74.9
Luxembourg	78.5	81.5	72.3	74.9
Germany	78.4	81.3	72.0	75.6
New Zealand	78.3	81.2	72.4	76.7
Belgium	79.4	81.1	72.7	75.1
Netherlands	80.9	80.7	73.8	76.0
Greece	79.5	80.7	74.6	75.4
OECD	78.3	80.6	71.7	74.7
Portugal	77.4	80.5	70.4	73.8
United Kingdom	78.5	80.4	72.9	75.7
Ireland	77.6	80.3	72.1	75.2
Korea ⁽¹⁾	-	80.0	-	72.8
United States	78.8	79.8	71.8	74.4
Denmark	77.7	79.5	72.0	74.8
Czech Republic	75.4	78.7	67.6	72.1
Poland	76.3	78.7	66.7	70.4
Slovak Republic	75.4	77.8	66.6	69.9
Mexico	74.1	77.1	68.3	72.1
Hungary	73.7	76.7	65.1	68.4
Turkey	68.7	70.9	64.2	66.2

Source: OECD Factbook 2005, New Zealand data from Statistics New Zealand
 (1) 1990 data not available.



Justice

Imprisonment Rate

(Prison population per 100,000 total population)

Latest year available

United States	701
OECD	261
Poland	218
Czech Republic	170
Hungary	165
Slovak Republic	164
Mexico	156
New Zealand	155
Spain	138
United Kingdom	138
Portugal	137
Korea	128
Canada	116
Australia	115
Netherlands	100
Italy	100
Austria	100
Germany	98
France	93
Turkey	92
Belgium	89
Luxembourg	85
Ireland	85
Greece	80
Sweden	73
Finland	70
Switzerland	68
Denmark	64
Norway	59
Japan	53
Iceland	37

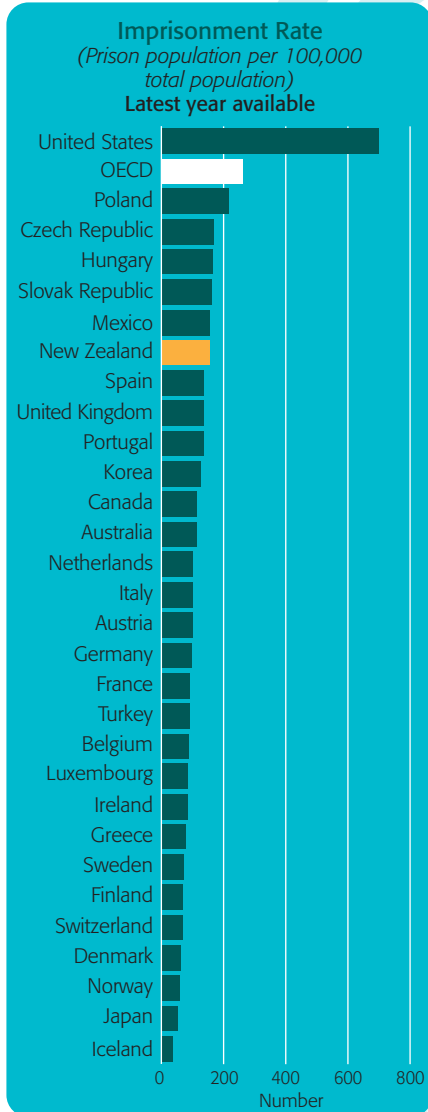
Source: World Prison List (fifth edition)

Almost three million people were held in penal institutions throughout OECD countries. Around two-thirds of these were in the United States, which has the highest prison population rate in the OECD, 701 per 100,000 population. Iceland has the lowest rate, at 37 per 100,000.

More than three-quarters of OECD countries have prison population rates below 140 per 100,000 population. New Zealand's rate of 155 places it seventh-highest in the OECD, just below Mexico.

Prison rates vary considerably among OECD regions. Iceland, Japan and northern European countries have some of the lowest rates, between 37 and 73 per 100,000 population. Western and southern European countries are higher, with most having between 80 and 100 per 100,000. Some of the highest prison population rates in the OECD were in central and eastern Europe, with rates that are exceeded only by the United States.

New Zealand has relatively high imprisonment rank



Prison and Country Populations
(Number in penal institutions including pre-trial detainees)
Latest year available

Country	Prison population	Total population
OECD total	2,983,505	1,142,486,000
United States	2,033,331	290,000,000
Japan	67,255	127,500,000
Mexico	154,765	98,900,000
Germany	81,176	82,560,000
Turkey	64,051	70,000,000
France	55,382	59,700,000
United Kingdom	82,241	59,550,000
Italy	56,574	56,300,000
Korea	60,721	47,400,000
Spain	56,140	40,650,000
Poland	83,113	38,210,000
Canada	36,024	31,080,000
Australia	22,492	19,500,000
Netherlands	16,239	16,160,000
Greece	8,500	10,580,000
Portugal	14,300	10,430,000
Belgium	9,253	10,340,000
Czech Republic	17,360	10,200,000
Hungary	16,700	10,110,000
Sweden	6,506	8,930,000
Austria	8,114	8,090,000
Switzerland	4,987	7,290,000
Slovak Republic	8,829	5,380,000
Denmark	3,439	5,380,000
Finland	3,617	5,200,000
Norway	2,662	4,540,000
Ireland	3,366	3,970,000
New Zealand	5,881	3,800,000
Luxembourg	380	447,000
Iceland	107	289,000

Source: World Prison List (fifth edition)



Education

Educational Attainment

(Percentage of 25–64 year olds
attaining at least upper
secondary education)

2002

Czech Republic	88
United States	87
Norway	86
Slovak Republic	86
Japan	84
Germany	83
Canada	83
Switzerland	82
Sweden	82
Denmark	80
Austria	78
New Zealand	76
Finland	75
Hungary	71
United Kingdom	71
Korea	71
Netherlands	66
OECD	65
France	65
Australia	61
Belgium	61
Ireland	60
Iceland	59
Luxembourg	57
Greece	50
Poland	47
Italy	44
Spain	41
Turkey	25
Portugal	20
Mexico	13

Source: OECD (2005) *Society at a Glance*
– Indicator SS7.1

Over three-quarters (76 percent) of New Zealanders aged 25–64 years have achieved secondary or tertiary education qualifications. This is at the upper end of the OECD scale, placing New Zealand twelfth among 30 nations, slightly behind Austria and ahead of Finland, and well above the OECD average of 65 percent. There is considerable variation in the proportion of people holding qualifications, from 13 percent in Mexico to 88 percent in the Czech Republic.

New Zealand also has higher rates of participation in early childhood education than most other OECD countries. Ninety-three percent of New Zealand four year olds were involved in early childhood education in 2000, compared with an OECD average of just 73 percent. New Zealand ranked ninth in the proportion of four year olds in education.

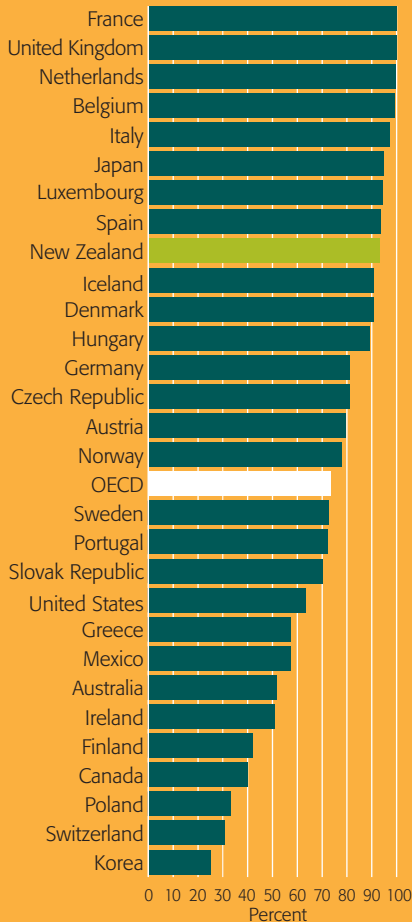
New Zealand children rank relatively highly on international literacy scales. The OECD Programme for International Student Assessment measures performance levels of students near the end of compulsory education in reading, mathematical and scientific literacy. The data shows that New Zealand children rank seventh among OECD countries, with comparable data in terms of the average score across the three scales, behind Finland, Korea, Japan, Canada, the Netherlands and Australia. New Zealand rates above the OECD average on each of the scales – fifth in reading, ninth in mathematics and seventh in science.

Note: In the New Zealand context, attaining at least upper secondary education means completing a secondary or tertiary-level qualification. This may include a minimum of one School Certificate pass, or a post-secondary qualification such as a trade certificate.

New Zealand has high early childhood education rate

Early Childhood Education

(Proportion of 4 year olds in primary or pre-primary education)
2000



Source: OECD (2002) *Society at a Glance* – Indicator SS15.1

Note: No data available for Turkey.

Student Literacy

(Student performance on the combined reading, scientific and mathematical literacy scales)
2003

Finland	545
Korea	538
Japan	527
Canada	526
Netherlands	525
Australia	525
New Zealand	522
Belgium	515
Switzerland	513
Sweden	510
Czech Republic	509
Ireland	508
France	506
Iceland	501
Germany	499
OECD	498
Austria	496
Poland	495
Denmark	494
Norway	493
Hungary	492
United States	490
Slovak Republic	487
Luxembourg	485
Spain	484
Italy	476
Portugal	470
Greece	466
Turkey	433
Mexico	397

Source: Based on results from OECD (2004) *Learning for Tomorrow's World – First Results for PISA 2003*. Paris, OECD Publications



Access to Computers and the Internet

Number of Personal Computers

Per 100 population

2003

Switzerland	70.9
United States	66.0
Sweden	62.1
Luxembourg	62.0
Australia	60.2
Denmark	57.7
South Korea	55.8
Norway	52.8
Canada	48.7
Germany	48.5
Netherlands	46.7
Iceland	45.1
Finland	44.2
Ireland	42.1
New Zealand	41.4
United Kingdom	40.6
Japan	38.2
OECD	37.5
Austria	37.4
France	34.7
Belgium	31.8
Slovak Republic	23.6
Italy	23.1
Spain	19.6
Czech Republic	17.7
Poland	14.2
Portugal	13.5
Hungary	10.8
Mexico	8.3
Greece	8.2
Turkey	4.3

Source: International Telecommunications Union 2005

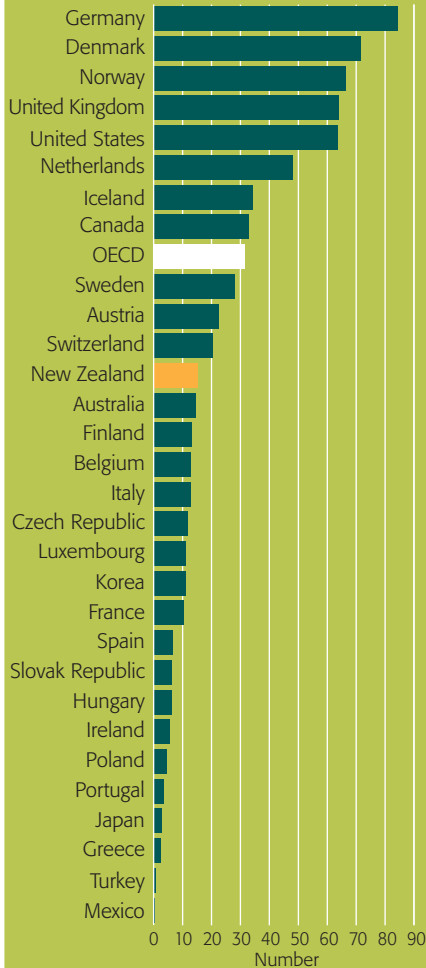
Access to computers and the Internet varies widely among OECD nations, with New Zealand placed around the middle of the rankings on most indicators. In 2003, New Zealand ranked fifteenth in the OECD in the number of personal computers per capita, with 41.4 computers for every 100 people. This is slightly higher than the OECD average of 37.5 and similar to figures for the United Kingdom and Ireland. Although New Zealand has experienced rapid growth in the number of personal computers, it still ranked below Switzerland where there were 70.9 computers for every 100 people.

New Zealand ranked twelfth in the number of websites per capita in 2003, with 15.3 sites per 1,000 people, up from 10.5 two years earlier. The 2003 figure was similar to that for Australia, but less than half the OECD average of 31.4 and well below the figures in the United States, Canada and some western European countries.

Access to the Internet has also grown markedly in most OECD countries. The number of New Zealanders subscribing to the Internet increased from 12.6 percent in 1999 to 52.6 percent in 2003. This was above the OECD average of 39.2 percent in 2003, but well below the highest rate in Iceland where 67.5 people in every 100 were Internet subscribers.

Internet subscriber numbers grow in New Zealand

Number of Websites Per 1,000 population 2003



Source: OECD, STI Scoreboard 2003

Internet Subscribers Per 100 population

	1999	2003
Iceland	17.7	67.5
Korea	23.3	61.0
Sweden	21.2	57.3
Australia	12.7	56.7
United States	18.2	55.2
Denmark	21.3	54.1
Finland	10.9	53.4
New Zealand	12.6	52.6
Netherlands	17.9	52.2
Canada	11.0	48.4
Japan	8.4	48.3
Germany	11.0	47.3
Austria	6.0	46.2
United Kingdom	12.4	42.3
Switzerland	12.6	39.9
OECD	10.5	39.2
Belgium	7.2	38.6
Luxembourg ⁽¹⁾	-	37.7
France	5.2	36.6
Norway	16.1	34.6
Italy	9.1	33.7
Ireland	10.8	31.7
Czech Republic	1.9	30.8
Slovak Republic	0.9	25.6
Spain	5.7	23.9
Poland ⁽¹⁾	-	23.2
Hungary	1.4	23.2
Portugal	4.7	19.4
Greece	1.9	15.0
Mexico	0.7	12.0
Turkey	2.3	8.5

Source: 1999 data from OECD, STI Scoreboard 2003, 2003 data from International Telecommunications Union 2005

(1) 1999 data not available for Luxembourg and Poland.



Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

Gross Domestic Product

At current prices and exchange rates
2004

	US\$ (billion)
OECD total	32,894.6
United States	11,664.6
Japan	4,682.4
Germany	2,703.1
United Kingdom	2,124.5
France	2,010.4
Italy	1,677.9
Spain	991.7
Canada	982.8
Korea	668.1
Mexico	660.8
Australia	641.5
Netherlands	579.0
Switzerland	358.8
Belgium	351.5
Sweden	346.0
Turkey	295.2
Austria	291.9
Norway	250.1
Denmark	241.8
Poland	241.6
Greece	205.2
Finland	185.9
Ireland	181.7
Portugal	167.7
Czech Republic	107.0
Hungary	99.7
New Zealand	98.5
Slovak Republic	41.2
Luxembourg	31.7
Iceland	12.5

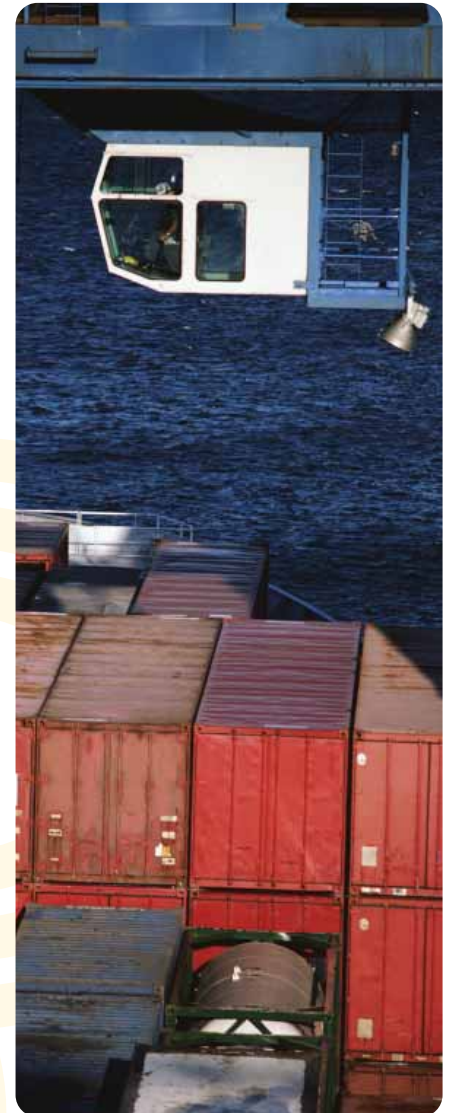
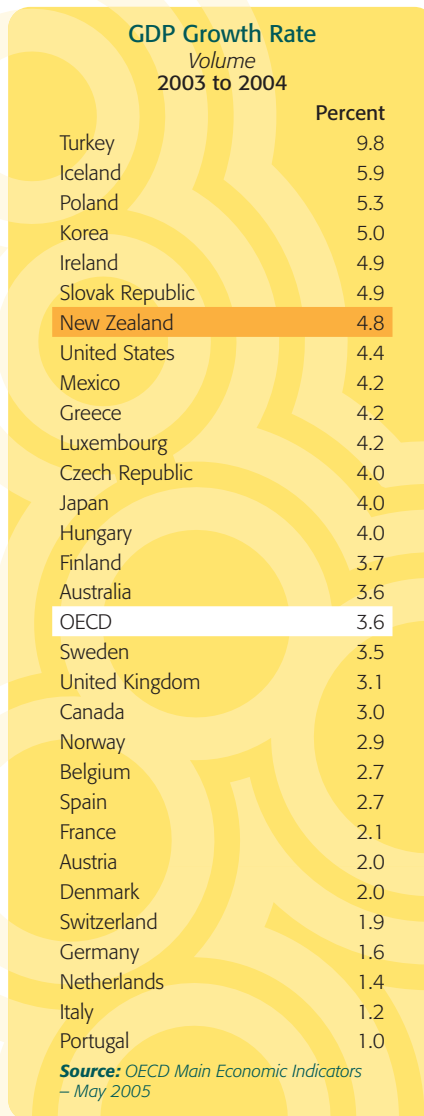
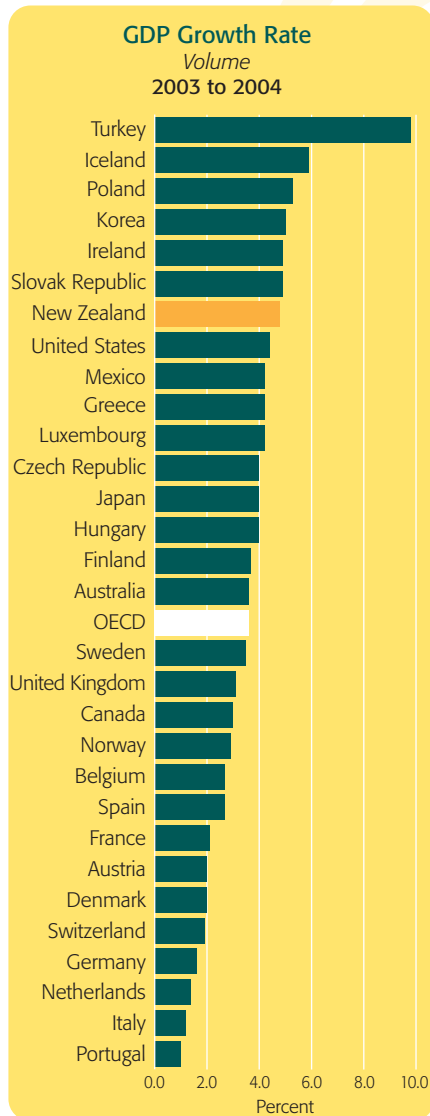
Source: OECD Main Economic Indicators
– May 2005

The size of a country's economy is measured by using Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which represents the dollar value of goods and services produced by an economy over a specific period of time.

The New Zealand economy is the fourth-smallest of the 30 OECD countries, larger only than Iceland, Luxembourg and the Slovak Republic. The largest economy by far is the United States, followed by Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom and France.

New Zealand had the seventh-fastest-growing economy in the OECD from 2003 to 2004, with a growth rate of 4.8 percent. This compares with the 3.6 percent overall economic growth of all OECD countries in the same period. All 30 OECD countries had positive growth.

New Zealand has small-scale economy



GDP Per Capita

GDP Per Capita Using Current Purchasing Power Parities 2003

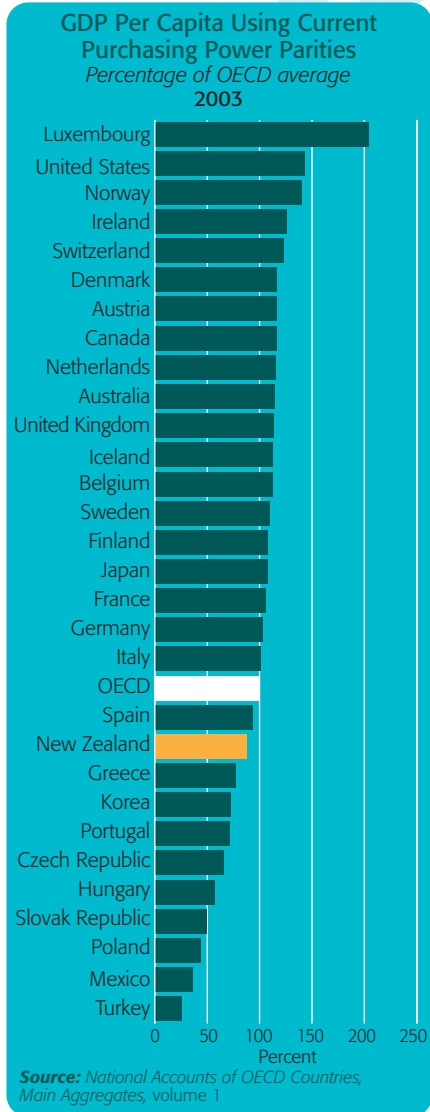
	US\$
Luxembourg	53,800
United States	37,600
Norway	37,000
Ireland	33,200
Switzerland	32,500
Denmark	30,700
Austria	30,600
Canada	30,500
Netherlands	30,300
Australia	30,100
United Kingdom	29,800
Iceland	29,700
Belgium	29,500
Sweden	28,900
Finland	28,500
Japan	28,400
France	27,800
Germany	27,100
Italy	26,600
OECD	26,300
Spain	24,500
New Zealand	23,200
Greece	20,300
Korea	19,200
Portugal	18,700
Czech Republic	17,200
Hungary	15,200
Slovak Republic	13,100
Poland	11,500
Mexico	9,500
Turkey	6,900

Source: National Accounts of OECD Countries, Main Aggregates, volume 1

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita is commonly used as a measure of prosperity. The GDP data of different countries can be compared when converted into a common currency by using Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs). PPPs are calculated by measuring the relative amounts of different countries' currencies required to purchase a common basket of goods and services.

New Zealand's GDP per capita was below the OECD average in 2003 and was twenty-first of the 30 countries. At US\$23,200 or 88 percent of the OECD average (US\$26,300), New Zealand's GDP per capita was most similar to that of Spain. Luxembourg continued to be the highest rating OECD country in 2003; its GDP per capita was more than twice the OECD average. The lowest rating country in the OECD was Turkey; its GDP per capita was 26 percent of the OECD average.

GDP per capita slightly below OECD average in New Zealand



GDP Per Capita Using Current Purchasing Power Parities (PPP)
(OECD 30 = 100)
 2003

Country	PPP
Luxembourg	205
United States	143
Norway	141
Ireland	126
Switzerland	124
Denmark	117
Austria	116
Canada	116
Netherlands	115
Australia	114
United Kingdom	113
Iceland	113
Belgium	112
Sweden	110
Finland	108
Japan	108
France	106
Germany	103
Italy	101
OECD	100
Spain	93
New Zealand	88
Greece	77
Korea	73
Portugal	71
Czech Republic	65
Hungary	58
Slovak Republic	50
Poland	44
Mexico	36
Turkey	26

Source: National Accounts of OECD Countries, Main Aggregates, volume 1



Prices

Consumers Price Index

Annual percentage change

	2003	2004
Turkey	25.0	10.7
Slovak Republic	8.6	7.5
Hungary	4.6	6.7
Mexico	4.6	4.7
Korea	3.6	3.6
Poland	0.7	3.3
Iceland	2.1	3.2
Spain	3.0	3.1
United Kingdom	2.9	3.0
Greece	3.5	2.9
Czech Republic	0.0	2.8
United States	2.2	2.7
OECD	2.5	2.4
Australia	2.8	2.4
New Zealand	1.7	2.3
Portugal	3.2	2.3
Luxembourg	2.0	2.2
Italy	2.7	2.2
Ireland	3.6	2.1
France	2.1	2.1
Belgium	1.5	2.1
Austria	1.3	2.1
Canada	2.8	1.9
Germany	1.1	1.6
Denmark	2.1	1.2
Netherlands	2.1	1.2
Switzerland	0.7	0.8
Norway	2.5	0.5
Sweden	2.1	0.5
Finland	0.9	0.2
Japan	-0.3	0.0

Source: OECD Main Economic Indicators – May 2005

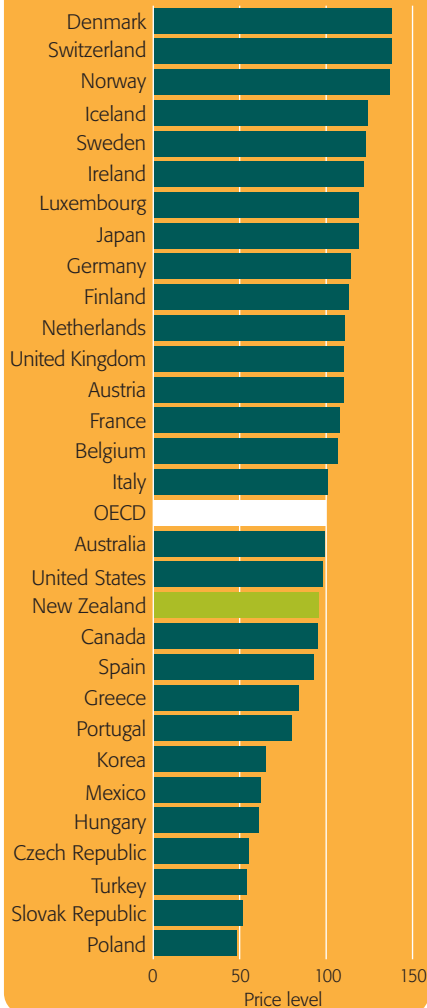
Inflation, as measured by the Consumers Price Index (CPI), rose in 29 of the 30 OECD countries in 2004. Japan was the only country in the OECD to experience no change between 2003 and 2004. The CPI measures the price change experienced by consumers in purchasing a constant basket of goods and services over time.

The New Zealand CPI saw a slightly larger increase in 2004 (2.3 percent) compared with 2003 (1.7 percent). This still leaves New Zealand below the OECD average which in 2004 increased 2.4 percent, down slightly from 2003 when prices increased 2.5 percent.

The table of comparative price levels gives an indication of how prices of consumer goods differ across countries of the OECD. The most expensive countries were Denmark, Switzerland and Norway. The cheapest were Poland, the Slovak Republic and Turkey. New Zealand had the twelfth-lowest overall level of prices in 2004, just below the OECD price level.

Mid-range inflation for New Zealand

Comparative Price Levels
(OECD 30 = 100)
2004



Comparative Price Levels
(OECD 30 = 100)

	2003	2004
Denmark	131	138
Switzerland	137	138
Norway	134	137
Iceland	126	124
Sweden	119	123
Ireland	117	122
Luxembourg	114	119
Japan	121	119
Germany	110	114
Finland	111	113
Netherlands	107	111
United Kingdom	104	110
Austria	105	110
France	105	108
Belgium	102	107
Italy	97	101
OECD	100	100
Australia	90	99
United States	102	98
New Zealand	87	96
Canada	91	95
Spain	86	93
Greece	79	84
Portugal	77	80
Korea	67	65
Mexico	65	62
Hungary	55	61
Czech Republic	53	55
Turkey	50	54
Slovak Republic	47	52
Poland	49	48

Source: OECD Main Economic Indicators – May 2005



International Trade

OECD Exports by Country

	Total Exports\$ US (million) ⁽¹⁾	Population (million) ⁽²⁾	Exports Per Capita US\$ ⁽³⁾
Belgium	308,003	10.4	29,600
Ireland	104,152	4.0	26,000
Luxembourg	12,164	0.5	24,300
Netherlands	320,559	16.2	19,800
Norway	82,370	4.6	17,900
Switzerland	118,690	7.3	16,300
Denmark	76,146	5.4	14,100
Sweden	122,475	9.0	13,700
Austria	110,744	8.1	13,700
Finland	60,737	5.2	11,700
Germany	911,582	82.5	11,000
Canada	316,192	31.6	10,000
Iceland	2,879	0.3	10,000
France	415,236	59.8	6,900
Czech Republic	66,161	10.2	6,500
Italy	344,350	57.5	6,000
United Kingdom	346,547	59.4	5,800
Hungary	54,784	10.1	5,400
Korea	253,845	47.9	5,300
OECD	6,100,119	1152.8	5,300
Slovak Republic	27,775	5.4	5,100
New Zealand	20,361	4.0	5,100
Japan	565,673	127.6	4,400
Australia	86,520	19.9	4,300
Spain	182,099	41.9	4,300
Portugal	34,772	10.4	3,300
United States	816,548	291.0	2,800
Poland	73,791	38.2	1,900
Mexico	188,626	102.7	1,800
Greece	13,216	11.0	1,200
Turkey	63,121	70.7	900

Sources: Export data from *OECD Statistical Database* (www.oecd.org), population data from *OECD Factbook 2005*

(1) Data from 2004.

(2) Data from 2003.

(3) Rounded to nearest US\$100.

The value of exports per capita for OECD countries varies widely, from nearly US\$30,000 per person for Belgium to less than US\$1,000 for Turkey. The value of New Zealand's exports is about the same as for the OECD overall – a little over US\$5,000 per person.

New Zealand has a small economy which is heavily reliant on international trade. The three main destinations in 2004 were Australia, the United States and Japan.

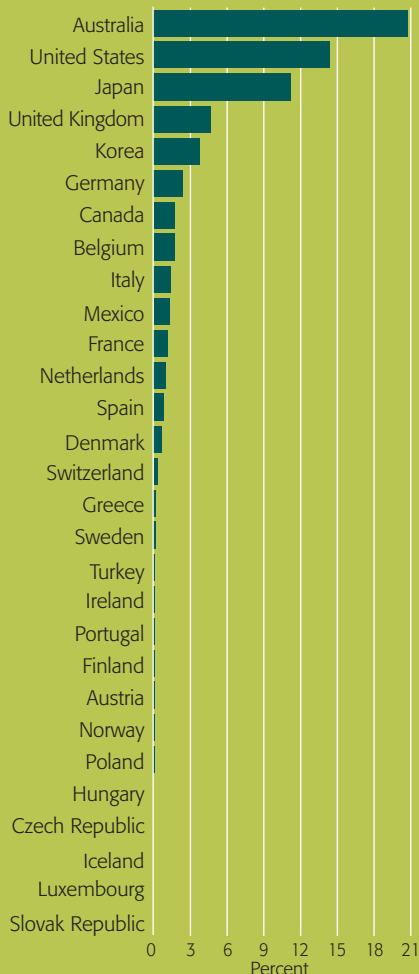
In 2004, New Zealand had the fourth-lowest value of exports in the OECD, higher only than Greece, Luxembourg and Iceland. Over two-thirds of New Zealand's exports are destined for OECD countries.

For most OECD countries, the main export group is machinery and transport equipment, followed by chemical products, food and drink, crude materials, and mineral fuels. In contrast, New Zealand's main exports are food and drink, followed by machinery and equipment, forestry articles, aluminium and aluminium articles, wool, and crude materials. New Zealand has developed its agriculture and manufacturing industries to suit the needs of niche markets. The farming industry provides a large proportion of food and drink exports in the form of dairy and meat products.

Two-thirds of New Zealand's exports go to OECD countries

New Zealand Exports to OECD Countries

Percentage of all exports
2004



Source: Statistics New Zealand, overseas trade data

OECD Exports by Destination

US\$(million)

2004

	OECD	Rest of World	Total
Germany	754,011	157,571	911,582
United States	581,712	234,835	816,548
Japan	293,322	272,351	565,673
France	338,507	76,729	415,236
United Kingdom	285,432	61,115	346,547
Italy	264,365	79,985	344,350
Netherlands	280,613	39,946	320,559
Canada	298,940	17,251	316,192
Belgium	272,615	35,387	308,003
Korea	114,263	139,582	253,845
Mexico	177,393	11,234	188,626
Spain	151,559	30,541	182,099
Sweden	101,171	21,304	122,475
Switzerland	96,697	21,992	118,690
Austria	93,630	17,114	110,744
Ireland	95,443	8,709	104,152
Australia	48,434	38,086	86,520
Norway	77,305	5,066	82,370
Denmark	66,142	10,004	76,146
Poland	61,461	12,330	73,791
Czech Republic	59,711	6,450	66,161
Turkey	41,383	21,738	63,121
Finland	42,462	18,275	60,737
Hungary	46,323	8,460	54,784
Portugal	30,913	3,859	34,772
Slovak Republic	25,335	2,440	27,775
New Zealand	13,980	6,381	20,361
Greece	8,333	4,884	13,216
Luxembourg	11,365	798	12,164
Iceland	2,658	220	2,879
OECD total	4,735,479	1,364,640	6,100,119

Source: OECD Statistical Database (www.oecd.org)



Government Spending and Receipts

General Government Total Outlays

As a percentage of nominal GDP
2004

	Percent
Sweden	57.1
Denmark	56.3
France	54.4
Greece	52.0
Finland	50.7
Austria	50.6
Belgium	49.4
Hungary	49.3
Netherlands	48.6
Italy	48.6
Portugal	48.4
Germany	47.7
Iceland	47.6
Norway	46.6
Luxembourg	45.9
Czech Republic	45.9
Poland	44.9
United Kingdom	44.1
OECD	40.8
Spain	40.6
Canada	39.4
Japan	37.3
United States	36.0
Switzerland	36.0
Australia	35.5
Ireland	34.3
New Zealand	34.1
Korea	27.3

Source: OECD Economic Outlook No 77

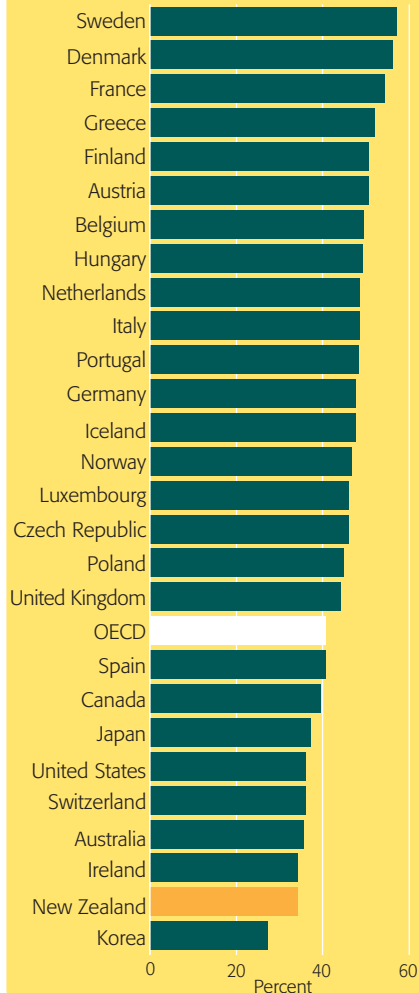
Note: No data available for Turkey, Mexico or Slovak Republic.

In 2004, New Zealand's general government (includes both local and central government) spending was 34.1 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the second-lowest of 27 OECD countries. Korea spent the least in relative terms, at 27.3 percent of GDP. Ireland (34.3 percent), Australia (35.5 percent), Switzerland and the United States (both 36.0 percent) spent more than New Zealand. Sweden spent the most, at 57.1 percent of GDP.

New Zealand's general government total tax and non-tax receipts, as a proportion of GDP, were the seventh-lowest of 27 OECD countries in 2004, at 38.3 percent. Korea, at 30.2 percent, had the lowest relative tax take, followed by Japan (31.2 percent), the United States (31.7 percent) and Switzerland (35.0 percent). At 58.6 and 58.3 percent of GDP, respectively, Denmark and Sweden's governments had the highest relative receipts.

New Zealand has second-lowest government spending in OECD

General Government Total Outlays As a percentage of nominal GDP 2004



General Government Total Tax and Non-Tax Receipts As a percentage of nominal GDP 2004

Country	Percent
Denmark	58.6
Sweden	58.3
Norway	58.0
Finland	52.6
France	50.7
Austria	49.4
Belgium	49.4
Iceland	48.1
Netherlands	46.2
Greece	46.0
Italy	45.5
Portugal	45.4
Hungary	44.9
Luxembourg	44.8
Germany	44.0
Czech Republic	42.9
Canada	40.7
United Kingdom	40.7
Spain	40.3
Poland	40.1
New Zealand	38.3
OECD	37.5
Australia	36.6
Ireland	35.6
Switzerland	35.0
United States	31.7
Japan	31.2
Korea	30.2

Source: OECD Economic Outlook No 77
Note: No data available for Turkey, Mexico or Slovak Republic.



Government and the Economy

General Government Financial Balances

As a percentage of nominal GDP
2004

	Percent
Norway	11.5
New Zealand	4.2
Korea	2.9
Denmark	2.3
Finland	1.9
Canada	1.3
Ireland	1.3
Sweden	1.2
Australia	1.1
Iceland	0.4
Belgium	0.0
Spain	-0.3
Switzerland	-1.0
Luxembourg	-1.1
Austria	-1.3
Netherlands	-2.3
Czech Republic	-3.0
Portugal	-3.0
Italy	-3.1
Slovak Republic	-3.3
OECD	-3.3
United Kingdom	-3.4
Germany	-3.6
France	-3.7
United States	-4.3
Hungary	-4.5
Poland	-4.8
Greece	-6.0
Japan	-6.1

Source: OECD Economic Outlook No 77

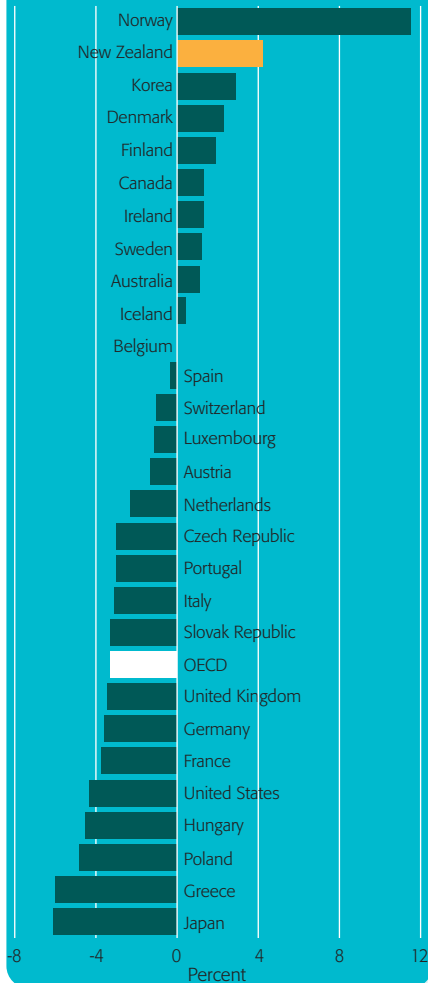
Note: No data available for Mexico and Turkey.

The New Zealand general government (includes both local and central government) is one of 10 in the OECD to have had a budget surplus in 2004. Norway, with significant revenues from oil, had the highest budget surplus of any country, with New Zealand in second place. Occupying the last three places were Poland, Greece and Japan.

At -0.4 percent of nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2004, the net debt and interest payments of the New Zealand Government were the fourth-lowest of 26 OECD countries. The negative figure means the New Zealand Government is a net lender. In the same period, Norway, Korea, Luxembourg and Sweden also had governments that were net lenders. Norway's recorded net debt and interest payments of -3.8 percent of nominal GDP was the lowest of the 26 OECD countries.

Budget surplus for New Zealand in 2004

General Government Financial Balances As a percentage of nominal GDP 2004



General Government Net Debt and Interest Payments As a percentage of nominal GDP 2004

	Percent
Greece	5.3
Belgium	4.7
Italy	4.5
Portugal	2.9
Germany	2.7
France	2.5
Austria	2.4
Poland	2.3
Netherlands	2.2
Spain	1.9
OECD	1.9
United States	1.8
United Kingdom	1.7
Australia	1.6
Canada	1.5
Japan	1.5
Switzerland	0.9
Denmark	0.8
Slovak Republic	0.6
Finland	0.4
Iceland	0.2
Ireland	0.2
Sweden	-0.2
New Zealand	-0.4
Luxembourg	-0.8
Korea	-1.4
Norway	-3.8

Source: OECD Economic Outlook No 77
Note: No data available for Mexico, Turkey, Czech Republic and Hungary.



Official Overseas Aid

Net Official Development Assistance

Percentage of Gross National Income⁽¹⁾
2004⁽²⁾

Norway	0.87
Luxembourg	0.85
Denmark	0.84
Sweden	0.77
Netherlands	0.74
Portugal	0.63
France	0.42
Belgium	0.41
Ireland	0.39
Switzerland	0.37
United Kingdom	0.36
Finland	0.35
Germany	0.28
Canada	0.26
Spain	0.26
Australia	0.25
Development Assistance Committee average	0.25
Austria	0.24
Greece	0.23
New Zealand	0.23
Japan	0.19
United States	0.16
Italy	0.15

Source: Net Official Development Assistance
2004

(1) Net disbursements at current prices
and exchange rates.

(2) Preliminary data.

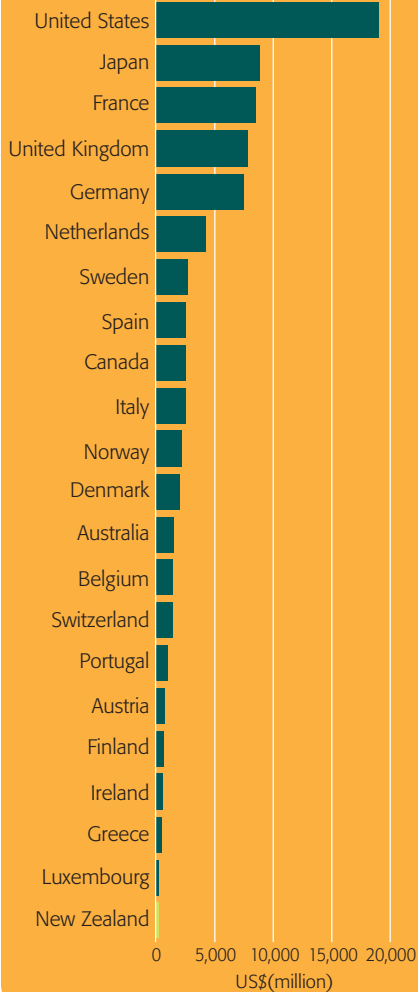
In 2004, New Zealand contributed US\$210 million of net official development assistance (ODA). New Zealand's ODA increased 8.2 percent in real terms between 2003 and 2004, and included significant grants to South Pacific agencies. Of the 22 Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members, New Zealand's contribution was the smallest in actual terms, just behind Luxembourg. The United States contributed the largest amount in actual terms, US\$19 billion.

The DAC is a key forum of major bilateral donors within the OECD which works to increase the effectiveness of their common efforts to support sustainable development.

As a percentage of gross national income (GNI), New Zealand's ODA contribution was 0.23 percent, equal eighteenth in the DAC with Greece, and similar to Australia's contribution (0.25 percent). The largest contribution as a percentage of GNI was from Norway (0.87 percent), while Italy was the lowest (0.15 percent).

New Zealand's aid spending is average in OECD

Net Official Development Assistance US\$(million) 2004



Net Official Development Assistance US\$(million) 2004⁽¹⁾

United States	18,999
Japan	8,859
France	8,475
United Kingdom	7,836
Germany	7,497
Netherlands	4,235
Sweden	2,704
Spain	2,547
Canada	2,537
Italy	2,484
Norway	2,200
Denmark	2,025
Australia	1,465
Belgium	1,452
Switzerland	1,379
Portugal	1,028
Austria	691
Finland	655
Ireland	586
Greece	464
Luxembourg	241
New Zealand	210
Total Development Assistance Committee	78,568

Source: Net Official Development Assistance 2004
(1) Preliminary data.



Photo: NZAID

Research and Development

Research and Development Expenditure

Percentage of GDP

Latest year available

Sweden	3.98
Finland	3.49
Japan	3.15
Iceland	3.04
Korea	2.64
United States	2.60
Switzerland	2.57
Germany	2.55
Denmark	2.53
Belgium	2.38
Austria	2.27
OECD	2.24
France	2.19
Canada	1.91
United Kingdom	1.89
Netherlands	1.80
Norway	1.75
Luxembourg	1.71
Australia	1.62
Czech Republic	1.26
Italy	1.16
New Zealand	1.16
Ireland	1.12
Spain	1.10
Hungary	0.95
Portugal	0.94
Turkey	0.66
Greece	0.65
Slovak Republic	0.58
Poland	0.56
Mexico	0.39

Source: OECD, MSTI database, August 2005

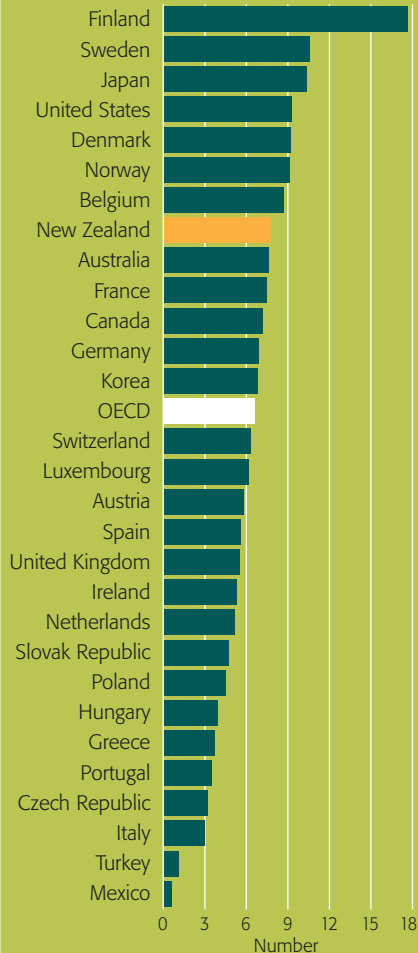
New Zealand's research and development (R&D) expenditure as a proportion of gross domestic product (GDP) increased from 1.15 percent in 2002 to 1.16 percent in 2004. However, this continues to be well below the OECD average of 2.24 percent of GDP. In 2004, total private sector R&D expenditure was 0.49 percent of GDP, up from 0.42 percent in 2002. New Zealand's government sector R&D expenditure was 0.34 percent of GDP in 2004, significantly higher than the OECD government average of 0.25 percent.

In terms of the number of researchers per 1,000 people employed, New Zealand is eighth among the OECD countries. This placed New Zealand (7.8 per 1,000) behind Belgium (8.7 per 1,000) and in front of Australia (7.6 per 1,000). The number of full-time equivalent researchers totalled 15,568 in 2004. The majority of these researchers (62 percent) are attributed to the universities, including 6,885 postgraduate research students. In the same year, 26 percent of researchers worked for New Zealand businesses, while 12 percent worked for the government sector.

Of the \$1,593.1 million total R&D expenditure in 2004, New Zealand's government was the largest funding source, contributing 45.1 percent of this total, while the business sector funded 38.5 percent. Included in 'other' funding sources were universities and overseas sources, which provided 7.1 percent and 6.8 percent of New Zealand's R&D expenditure, respectively.

Government R&D expenditure above OECD average

Numbers of Researchers Per 1,000 total employed Latest year available



Source: OECD, MSTI database, August 2005
Note: No data available for Iceland.

Research and Development Expenditure

Percentage by source of funds
Latest year available

	Government	Business	Other
Poland	62.7	30.3	7.0
Portugal	61.0	31.5	7.5
Mexico	59.1	29.8	11.1
Hungary	58.0	30.7	11.3
Slovak Republic	50.8	45.1	4.0
Italy	50.8	43.0	6.2
Turkey	50.6	41.3	8.2
Greece	46.6	33.0	20.4
New Zealand ⁽¹⁾	45.1	38.5	16.4
Australia	44.4	46.4	9.2
Norway	41.9	49.2	8.9
Czech Republic	41.8	51.4	6.8
Spain	40.1	48.4	11.5
France	38.4	52.1	9.6
Netherlands	37.1	50.0	12.9
Austria	35.8	43.4	20.7
Canada	35.4	46.2	18.4
Iceland	34.0	46.2	19.9
United Kingdom	31.3	43.9	24.8
United States	31.2	63.1	5.7
Germany	31.1	66.1	2.7
OECD	30.5	61.6	7.9
Denmark	28.2	61.4	10.4
Ireland	28.0	63.4	8.7
Finland	25.7	70.0	4.2
Korea	23.9	74.0	2.1
Sweden	23.5	65.0	11.6
Switzerland	23.2	69.1	7.7
Belgium	21.4	64.3	14.3
Japan	17.7	74.5	7.8
Luxembourg	7.7	90.7	1.6

Source: OECD, MSTI database, August 2005
(1) New Zealand data sourced from Statistics New Zealand.



Energy

Total Primary Energy Supply

Million tonnes of oil equivalent
per capita

2002

Iceland	11.74
Luxembourg	8.98
United States	7.97
Canada	7.96
Finland	6.85
Norway	5.84
Sweden	5.71
Australia	5.71
Belgium	5.51
Netherlands	4.82
OECD	4.67
New Zealand	4.53
France	4.34
Korea	4.27
Germany	4.20
Czech Republic	4.09
Japan	4.06
Ireland	3.91
United Kingdom	3.83
Austria	3.78
Switzerland	3.72
Denmark	3.67
Slovak Republic	3.45
Spain	3.24
Italy	2.98
Greece	2.65
Portugal	2.55
Hungary	2.50
Poland	2.33
Mexico	1.57
Turkey	1.08

Source: OECD Online Statistical Databases

In 2002 New Zealand had the eleventh-highest energy consumption per capita, as expressed in total primary energy supply in tonnes of oil equivalent (TOE) per capita. New Zealand's energy consumption of 4.53 TOE per capita is just below the OECD average of 4.67. Factors contributing to high energy consumption are a large manufacturing base, a cold climate, a high standard of living, and a low population density which means that greater distances are travelled.

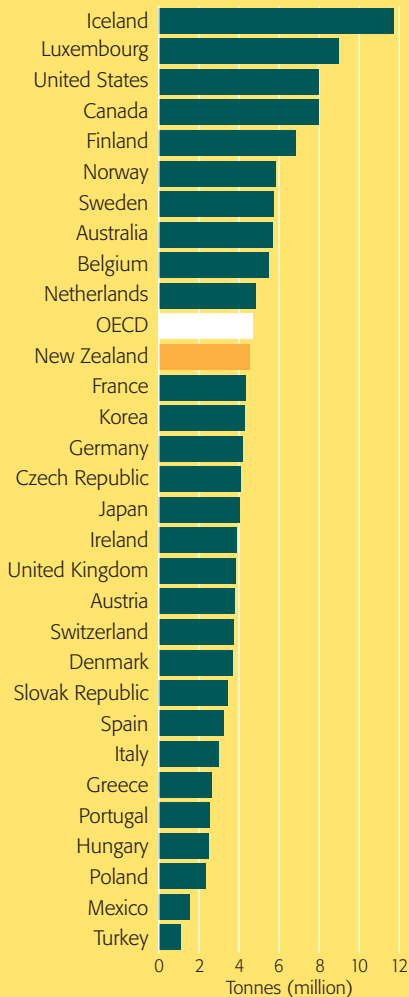
Among OECD countries, New Zealand has the sixth-lowest proportion of electricity generated using combustible fuels (ie oil, coal and natural gas), and the third-highest proportion of electricity produced using hydroelectric schemes. Seventy-two percent of its electricity comes from this source.

New Zealand is one of 13 of the 30 OECD members that does not operate nuclear power plants. Several of those 13 countries import electricity from countries that do have such plants. New Zealand has the third-highest proportion of electricity produced using alternative methods, primarily geothermal. The two countries with a higher proportion of alternative methods than New Zealand are Iceland, which also uses geothermal generation, and Denmark, which has a large infrastructure of wind farms.

New Zealand's energy use average within OECD

Total Primary Energy Supply

Million tonnes of oil equivalent per capita
2002



Method of Electricity Generation

By country

2002

	Com- bustible fuels	Nuclear	Hydro	Geo- thermal /Other
	Percentage			
Poland	97	0	3	0
Ireland	96	0	4	0
Netherlands	95	4	0	1
Greece	92	0	7	1
Australia	90	0	10	0
Denmark	87	0	0	13
Portugal	81	0	19	0
Italy	80	0	18	2
Mexico	79	5	13	3
United Kingdom	75	23	2	0
Turkey	73	0	27	0
Luxembourg	72	0	27	1
Czech Republic	71	25	4	0
United States	71	20	7	2
Germany	65	30	5	0
OECD	61	24	14	1
Hungary	60	39	1	0
Korea	59	39	2	0
Japan	59	31	9	0
Spain	59	28	13	0
Finland	55	30	15	0
Belgium	40	58	2	0
Austria	34	0	66	0
Canada	28	12	60	0
Slovak Republic	28	56	16	0
New Zealand	21	0	72	7
France	8	80	12	0
Sweden	8	46	46	0
Switzerland	4	40	56	0
Norway	1	0	99	0
Iceland	0	0	84	16

Source: OECD Online Statistical Databases



Environment

Emissions of Carbon Dioxide

Tonnes per capita

2004

Luxembourg	20.8
United States	19.7
Australia	17.4
Canada	16.9
Finland	12.2
Czech Republic	11.3
Netherlands	11.0
OECD	11.0
Belgium	10.9
Ireland	10.9
Germany	10.2
Denmark	9.5
Korea	9.5
Japan	9.5
United Kingdom	8.9
New Zealand	8.6
Greece	8.3
Austria	8.2
Iceland	7.7
Spain	7.5
Italy	7.5
Poland	7.4
Norway	7.3
Slovak Republic	7.0
France	6.2
Portugal	6.1
Switzerland	5.9
Sweden	5.6
Hungary	5.5
Mexico	3.6
Turkey	2.8

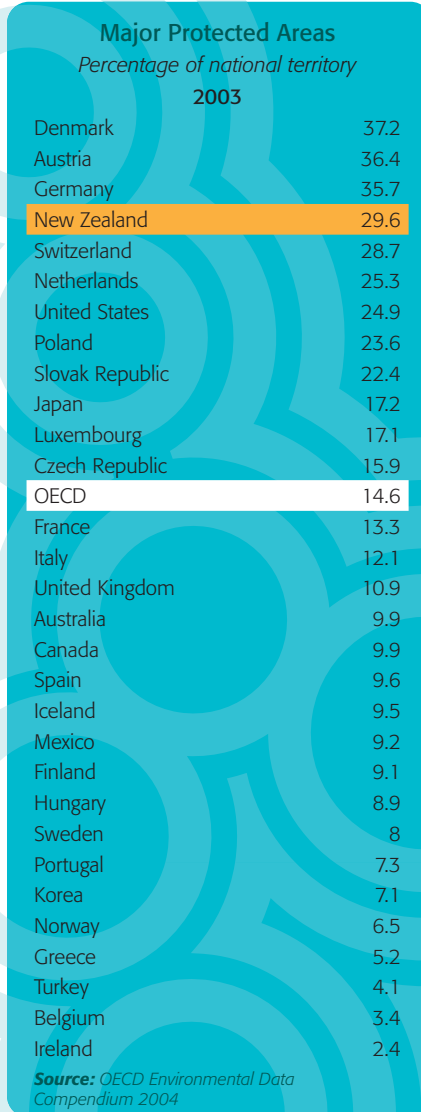
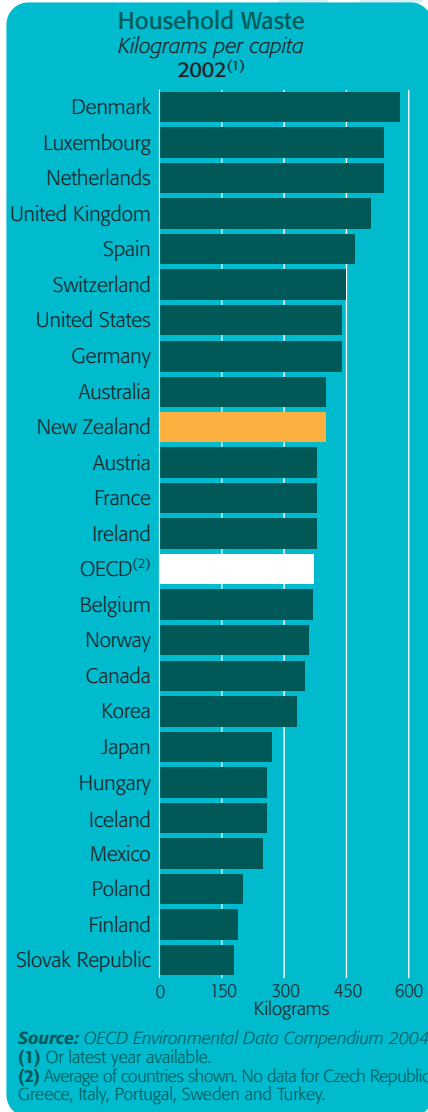
Source: OECD Environmental Data Compendium 2004

In 2004, New Zealand's emission of carbon dioxide, a gas which contributes towards global warming potential, was lower than average at 8.6 tonnes per capita compared with an OECD average of 11 tonnes. This places New Zealand in the middle of the OECD rankings with the sixteenth-lowest rate of emissions, slightly below the United Kingdom and considerably below Luxembourg's 20.8 tonnes per capita.

Household waste is waste generated by the domestic activity of households. It includes garbage, bulk waste and separately collected waste. At 400 kilograms per capita in 2004, New Zealand generates the same amount as Australia, the ninth-highest rate of household waste in the OECD. This is higher than the OECD average of 372kg.

A 'protected area' is one in which restrictions are enforced on activities allowed in the area. They include restrictions on both building and access by people. The category includes strict nature reserves, wilderness areas, national parks, natural monuments, habitat/species management areas and protected landscapes. New Zealand has almost 30 percent of its total area protected, the fourth-highest figure in the OECD and more than twice the OECD average of 14.6 percent. Only Denmark, Austria and Germany have greater proportions of protected area.

New Zealand's carbon dioxide emissions below OECD average



Information Centre

Email info@stats.govt.nz

Phone 0508 525 525 toll-free

Fax 04 931 4079

www.stats.govt.nz

Auckland

Private Bag 92003

Wellington

PO Box 2922

Christchurch

Private Bag 4741