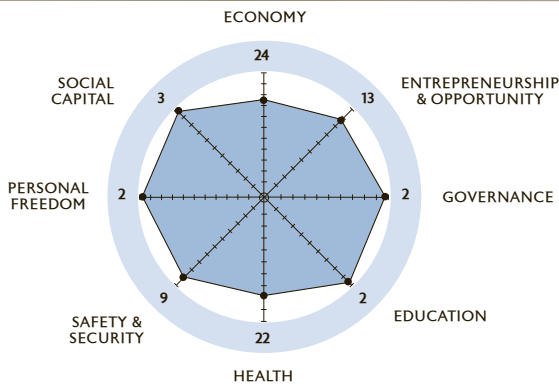


### FAST FACTS

Average life satisfaction (Rated 0 > 10)	7.2	Literacy rate (% of adult population) (2009)	100%
Population mn. (2011 Est.)	4.42	Life expectancy years (2009)	80.3
GDP per capita (PPP) (2011 Est.)	\$27,217	Business start-up costs (% of Gross National Income) (2011)	0.4%
GDP (PPP) bn. (2011 Est.)	\$120.20	% of people believe society is meritocratic* (2011)	87.0%
Freedom House rating (2011)	Free	% of people feel personal safety* (2010)	64.2%
Political System	Parliamentary Democracy and a Commonwealth realm	% of people find others trustworthy* (2005)	51.2%

### SUB-INDEX RANKINGS



### INDEX OF COMPARISONS

	Rank/ No. of countries
Legatum Prosperity Index	4/110
Average Life Satisfaction Ranking	15/110
Per Capita GDP Ranking	29/110
WEF Global Competitiveness Index	23/139
UN Human Development Index	3/169
Heritage/WSJ Economic Freedom Index	4/179
TI Corruption Perceptions Index	1/178
Vision of Humanity Global Peace Index	2/153

### ECONOMY:

New Zealand's performance is sound on most variables, although GDP growth has been poor in recent years

RANKED  
**24**

New Zealand's macroeconomic position is strong. Inflation is low, while the rate of gross domestic savings are around the international\*\* average at 20%. An unemployment rate of 6% places 43rd, and according to a 2010 survey, 70%\* of the population are engaged in paid or unpaid employment, placing New Zealand fifth highest on this variable. A very high\* proportion of New Zealanders had enough money to provide adequate food and shelter to their families during the previous year, and 83%\* are satisfied with their standard of living; the country places in the top 15 countries on both variables. Local job market expectations are relatively high, placing 52nd\*, worldwide, and economic expectations are above average as well, placing New Zealand 29th\* on this variable. Between 2005 and 2009, annual per capita GDP contracted by an average of -0.07% per year, the seventh lowest rate of growth in the Index. However, there are strong foundations for growth: the amount of physical capital per worker places in the top 30 of the Index, and the country's domestic market is larger than average. The country places in the top half of the Index with respect to the proportion of exports that come from high-tech sectors, but its attractiveness as a destination for foreign direct investment is low. Banking sector efficiency is good, with New Zealand placing eighth with respect to its low percentage of non-performing loans. At 66%\*, the proportion of New Zealanders who have confidence in the country's financial institutions ranks 41st in the Index.

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP & OPPORTUNITY:

New Zealand shows a moderate level of innovation with broad access to opportunity

RANKED  
**13**

Royalty receipts are above average and R&D expenditure is high as a proportion of GDP. At almost 2% of total goods exports, ICT exports are around the global average. At 71%\*, the proportion of people who believe that their local area provides a strong environment for entrepreneurs is below average. Despite weak public perceptions, the country's infrastructure for entrepreneurship is strong: business start-up costs are the third lowest in the world; the number of people with access to mobile phones is above the global average, internet bandwidth is near the global average, and New Zealand places seventh in the world with respect to the number of secure internet servers per capita. Inequality in education, jobs, and economic status across different socio-economic groups is low in New Zealand. This is reflected by the 87%\* of New Zealanders who believe that hard work will get them ahead in life, which places the country 53rd, on this variable.

### GOVERNANCE:

New Zealand has a very stable political system and an effective system of governance

RANKED  
**2**

The New Zealand government is highly democratic and extremely effective in implementing policies. Adequate checks and balances ensure that individual political actors are limited in their capacity to influence policy based on personal preference. High levels of competition in legislative and executive election, and the presence of an independent judiciary, guarantee the separation of powers. In a 2010 survey two-thirds\* of New Zealanders reported their approval of the government, which is above the global average. Similarly, support for the country's poverty and environmental policies is very high\*, both ranking the country in the top 20. Corruption is perceived to be low\*, and New Zealand places sixth on this variable. Respect for the rule of law places in the top five countries, as does the extent of regulation of the business environment. While 77%\* of people have confidence in the military, just 58%\* are confident about the judicial system. Despite the extension of full political rights to the population, only one-fifth\* voiced concern to a public official in the 12 months before a 2010 survey, placing New Zealand 59th on this variable. However, 78% of the people believe that elections are honest and the country places 11th on this variable.

## EDUCATION:

New Zealand's strong education system inspires high levels of public confidence

RANKED  
2

New Zealand places in the top 10 countries with respect to enrolment rates at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of education. There is also near gender equality in primary and secondary education in New Zealand, and the ratio of pupils to teachers in primary schools is below average at 15-to-one. The proportion of people who are satisfied with the quality of education in their local area is 83%\* and 93%\* of people feel that children are learning and growing every day; New Zealand places in the top 20 on both variables. Strengths in the education system correlate with high levels of human capital. The average worker has completed four years of secondary education and nearly two years of tertiary education, placing New Zealand sixth and seventh, respectively, on these variables.

## HEALTH:

New Zealand's strong health infrastructure results in a healthy population

RANKED  
22

Life expectancy, adjusted by healthy years lived, is 73 years, placing New Zealand in the top 10 countries on this variable. The country has a low rate of infant mortality, with just 5% of babies dying in their first year, while the level of undernourishment is very low, placing the country fourth overall. Immunisation rates against measles and infectious diseases are relatively low, at 89% and 92%, respectively. Statistics also indicate a low rate of deaths from respiratory diseases, and a very low prevalence of tuberculosis. Health expenditure of roughly 2,500 USD (PPP) per capita is high, as is the availability of hospital beds; New Zealand places 21st, on both variables. Access to sanitation facilities is universal and 90%\* of New Zealanders are satisfied with the quality of their water. Just over eight out of ten\* of New Zealanders are satisfied with their personal health, and fewer than one in five\* people complain that health problems prevent them from engaging fully in a normal life; the country places 61st and 23rd, respectively, on these variables. While almost a third\* of people had been worried for a considerable part of the day before the 2010 survey, two-thirds\* said they felt well-rested, and a very high 95%\* of New Zealanders were satisfied with the beauty of their physical environment.

## SAFETY & SECURITY:

National security does not pose a problem, but New Zealanders face some concerns over personal safety

RANKED  
9

New Zealand has few issues related to refugees and internally displaced persons, placing seventh in the Index on this variable. There is also a low level of group grievances based on recent or past injustices. The state does not engage in political violence against political dissident and a very high proportion\* feel they are able to express their political opinions without repercussions for their safety. Similarly, flight of professionals, intellectuals, and political dissidents, and voluntary emigration of the middle class is relatively low, placing the country 14th, on this variable. There were no reports of civil or ethnic strife in 2010. New Zealand has very few demographic pressures, placing second, globally, on this variable. A very low 2% of the population reported having been assaulted in the year prior to the 2010 survey. However, instances of property theft were much higher, at 20%\*. This has resulted in only 64%\* of people feeling safe walking home alone at night.

## PERSONAL FREEDOM:

New Zealand has both very high levels of personal freedom and perceived social tolerance

RANKED  
2

New Zealanders enjoy full civil liberties in terms of freedom of expression, belief, association, and personal autonomy. A very high 92%\* of people are satisfied with their freedom to do what they wish with their lives, placing the country seventh, on this variable. Perceived levels of tolerance for immigrants and racial or ethnic minorities are even higher, with the country placing first\* and fourth\*, respectively, on these variables.

## SOCIAL CAPITAL:

Levels of trust and social engagement in New Zealand are extremely high

RANKED  
3

New Zealanders have one of the world's highest levels of social cohesion and engagement. With 51%\* of people expressing trust in others, the level of social trust is very high. Social engagement is generally strong with a very large\* proportion of people donating money to charity, helping strangers, and volunteering at organisations. The share of respondents who were married in 2010 was 50%\*, placing New Zealand 67th, on this variable. Unsurprisingly, 98%\* reported that they had family and friends to rely on in times of need. Religious attendance in the seven days prior to the survey was below the global average; at just 23%\*, the country places 90th on this variable, suggesting low levels of access to religious support networks.

## REGIONAL RANKING: Asia-Pacific

RANK	COUNTRY
3	Australia
4	<b>New Zealand</b>
16	Singapore
19	Hong Kong
20	Taiwan
21	Japan
24	South Korea
43	Malaysia
45	Thailand
46	Kazakhstan
52	China
60	Mongolia
62	Vietnam
63	Sri Lanka
64	Uzbekistan
66	Philippines
70	Indonesia
91	India
93	Nepal
94	Cambodia
95	Bangladesh
107	Pakistan

\* Data is taken from the Gallup World Poll \*\* The terms 'international', 'global', or 'world' are used to reference the 110 Prosperity Index countries, which represent approximately 93% of the world's population and 97% of global GDP. The term 'average' refers to the average performance in the Index for the referenced variable.