

New Zealand Productivity Commission



Economic Researcher (All levels)

Independent, interesting and insightful research to help achieve New Zealand's productivity potential

The New Zealand Productivity Commission Te Kōmihana Whai Hua o Aotearoa is an independent Crown entity that provides advice to Government on ways to improve productivity to support the wellbeing of New Zealanders. We carry out productivity-related research, conduct in-depth inquiries on topics selected by Government, and undertake a range of activities to promote better understanding of productivity issues.

Our independence, and our reputation for high-quality analysis and meaningful engagement, puts the Commission in a unique position to influence public policy debates. We aim to provide insightful, well-informed and accessible advice that leads to improved economic, social and environmental outcomes for New Zealanders. Our work to date has contributed to significant policy reform.

The Economics and Research team is currently a team of four applied empirical economists. We conduct robust, independent research to inform our understanding of the economy – particularly in relation to productivity, workers, firms and jobs – and to support the Commission's inquiries. We have recently upgraded our DataLab facilities to accommodate our growing team.

What we expect from you

Researcher: you will be fairly early in your research journey, but be willing and able to learn how to undertake sophisticated analysis on large complex relational datasets like the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) and the Longitudinal Business Database (LBD). You will have a degree in economics or another numerate discipline.

Senior researcher: you will be an experienced researcher with extensive knowledge of and experience with a range of quantitative research approaches and methodologies. You will have empirical skills and experience with using large linked administrative datasets, particularly the IDI and LBD. Ideally, you will have a postgraduate qualification in economics or other relevant discipline.

Principal researcher: you will be a leading economic researcher, with a national or international reputation for quality research. You should have a postgraduate qualification in economics or other relevant discipline.

What you can expect from us

The role offers an opportunity to:

- work with a team of top applied economic researchers;
- help shape an independent research programme relating to major issues impacting New Zealand's productivity and the wellbeing of New Zealanders;
- provide input into and influence to our inquiries;
- work closely with Commissioners and other leaders in academia, government and business;
- build a strong publication record;
- work in a collegial environment that values new ideas and ways of thinking; and
- work with leaders that will mentor your career and provide opportunities for growth.

The quality of our people is critical to our success. Our people have stellar research, analysis and writing skills, and can turn high-quality analysis into influential policy advice. We offer an intellectually stimulating, supportive and family-friendly workplace. We value diversity and encourage applications from all ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, and ages. We particularly welcome applications from Māori and Pacific Peoples.

To apply

Please send a tailored covering letter and CV to careers@productivity.govt.nz by 9am on Monday 13 June 2022.

Note we will only be accepting applications sent to this email address.

A copy of the position description can be found at www.productivity.govt.nz/about-us/careers.