

# NEW ZEALAND

Region: Oceania (Global North)

Population (2022): 5.12 million (122<sup>nd</sup>)

Life Expectancy at Birth (Women): 83.52 years

Governance System: Constitutional monarchy with democratic parliamentary system

Capital: Wellington

Land Area (km<sup>2</sup>): 263,310 (73<sup>rd</sup>)

Major Languages: English, Māori

## ***Select Global Rankings***

GDP (2022): 52<sup>nd</sup> (247,234 US\$ Millions)

Human Development Index: 13<sup>th</sup> (Very High)

Fragile States Index - Inverted: 4<sup>th</sup> (Cat. 1)

Good Country Index: 19<sup>th</sup>

Human Freedom Index: 2<sup>nd</sup>

World Happiness Ranking: 10<sup>th</sup>

## ***Select Global Rankings (Gender-Focus)***

Gross National Income Per Capita (Women): 22<sup>nd</sup>

Gender Social Norms Index: 1<sup>st</sup>

Women's Power Index: 7<sup>th</sup>

Social Institutions and Gender Index (World Cup rank): 12<sup>th</sup>

Gender Inequality Index: 25<sup>th</sup>

Global Gender Gap Index: 4<sup>th</sup>

Women Peace & Security Index: 13<sup>th</sup>

## ***Elite Sport System Rankings***

2020 Summer Olympic Women's Medals (% of Total): 11 (55% of 20)

2022 Winter Olympic Women's Medals (% of Total): 2 (67% of 3)

Global Cup Ranking (Women): 17<sup>th</sup>

## ***Football/World Cup Profile***

FIFA Region: OFC

FIFA Ranking: 26<sup>th</sup>

World Cup Appearance: 6<sup>th</sup>

Best World Cup Performance(s): Group Stage

Qualification: Co-Host (automatic)

World Cup Group: A

Last World Cup Appearance: 2019

## **NEW ZEALAND in International (Gender) Affairs (by Alanna Harman)**

New Zealand was first settled by Polynesians, however, with perceived threat from Charles de Thierry, a Frenchman, thirteen chiefs petitioned King William IV for formal protection. In 1835 thirty-four northern chiefs signed the declaration which was formally acknowledged by the Crown in 1836. The understanding of the declaration is controversial, it is suggested that James Busby a British resident viewed the declaration as a step towards making New Zealand a British possession. Whereas the chiefs viewed the declaration as a guarantee of their independence and a signal of a strengthening relationship with the [British](#). The subsequent Treaty of Waitangi signed in 1840 by the British Crown and about 540 Māori chiefs, the annexing of New Zealand was thought to “protect Māori, regulate British subjects and secure commercial [interests](#)”. British sovereignty over New Zealand was declared on May 21, 1840 making New Zealand part of the British Empire. Today, New Zealand remains part of the Commonwealth and has the British monarch as their head of [state](#).

As members of the British Empire New Zealand fought on Britain's side in WW1. Following WW1 New Zealand signed the Treaty of Versailles. New Zealand also actively participated in WWII when then Prime Minister Michael Savage stated "where Britain goes, we go; where Britain stands, we [stand](#)".

In [1947](#) New Zealand ratified the Statute of Westminster Adoption Act which made New Zealand independent of Britain. Following this New Zealand actively sought to develop diplomatic relations, in 1951 New Zealand signed the Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty ([ANZUS](#)). As a result of this New Zealand felt obligated to support America in the Korean War and Vietnam War.

Today, New Zealand is involved in several international organizations including but not limited to the United Nations (a founding member in 1945); World Trade Organization; World Bank; International Energy Agency; Pacific Islands Forum. New Zealand has several bi-lateral agreements with countries around the world and routinely engage in humanitarian aid. One of New Zealand's greatest international relationships is with Australia the Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA, or the [CER](#) agreement) has been described as one of the most comprehensive bilateral free trade agreements. The close ties between New Zealand and Australia are highlighted in this Women's World Cup in which both countries are acting as co-hosts.

## Gender Equity

When the Electoral Bill was signed in [1893](#), New Zealand became the first self-governing nation in the world where women had the right to vote. In 2017, Jacinda Ardern became the country's youngest prime minister, her tenure ended in January 2023. New Zealand may be viewed internationally as progressive when it comes to gender equity, [UN Women](#) has reported 91.7% of legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality under the UN's sustainable development goals (SDG) are in place. However, gender discrepancies still take place. Women and girls aged 10+ spend [18.1%](#) of their time on unpaid care and domestic work, compared to 10.6% spent by men. Further, in 2022 it was reported that men earn on average [10%](#) more than women in New Zealand. However, when it comes to the soccer pitch in [2018](#) the national soccer organization announced that it would guarantee financial parity between its men's and women's programs as well as equal travel accommodations. A similar feat was accomplished in [April 2023](#) when the cabinet reached gender parity for the first time in New Zealand's history. While New Zealand has consistently been making efforts towards gender equity the [UN Women](#) report also highlighted that only 32.8% of indicators needed to monitor the SDGs from a gender perspective were available. Without data the full context of gender equity in New Zealand today is difficult to gauge.