

## Employment: Job satisfaction

Downloaded from <https://www.canterburywellbeing.org.nz/our-wellbeing/employment/job-satisfaction/> on 25/04/2024 6:30 PM

Job satisfaction reflects how people feel about their job and encompasses a range of possible factors and influences. Job satisfaction has been associated with overall life satisfaction and provides an additional view on working life. Satisfaction with one's employment situation can influence subjective wellbeing, and vice versa [17]. Respondents to the New Zealand General Social Survey [18] are asked to think about the last four weeks in their job (main job), and to rate how they feel about their job using a 5-point Likert scale (response options ranging from very dissatisfied to very satisfied).

This indicator presents the proportion of employed people who were satisfied or very satisfied with their main job, based on recall of the last four weeks in their job.



The figure shows that job satisfaction as measured in the New Zealand General Social Survey decreased in Canterbury and in New Zealand overall between 2016 and 2021. In the 2021 survey, 76.4 percent of Canterbury respondents and 74.1 percent of New Zealand respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their job, compared to 85.4 percent and 83.8 percent in 2016, respectively.

### Data Sources

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand.

**Survey/data set:** New Zealand General Social Survey to 2021. Access publicly available data from the Statistics New Zealand | Ngā Tūtohu Aotearoa – Indicators Aotearoa New Zealand website <https://statisticsnz.shinyapps.io/wellbeingindicators/?page=alignment&subpage=aligningcurrent>

**Source data frequency:** Every 2 years.

Metadata for this indicator is available at <https://www.canterburywellbeing.org.nz/our-wellbeing/index-data>

## REFERENCES

---

This is the full reference list for **Employment**.

- 1 Warr P (1987) *Work, unemployment, and mental health*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2 National Health Committee (1998) *The Social, Cultural and Economic Determinants of Health in New Zealand: Action to Improve Health*. Wellington: National Health Committee.
- 3 Milligan S, Fabian A, Coope P, Errington C (2006) *Family wellbeing indicators from the 1981–2006 New Zealand Censuses*. Statistics NZ, University of Auckland, University of Otago.
- 4 Waddel G, Burton AK (2006) Is working good for your health and wellbeing? London: Department of Work and Pensions, UK Government.
- 5 Dodu N (2005) Is employment good for well-being? a literature review. *Journal of Occupational Psychology, Employment and Disability* 7: 17-33.
- 6 Junaker R (1991) Unemployment and mortality in England and Wales: a preliminary analysis. *Oxford Economics Papers* 43: 305–320.
- 7 Statistics New Zealand (2014) *A guide to unemployment statistics (second edition)*. Wellington: Statistics New Zealand.
- 8 Mathers C, Schofield D (1998) The health consequences of unemployment: the evidence. *Medical Journal of Australia* 168: 178–182.
- 9 Congdon WJ, Kling JR, Mullainathan S (2011) Poverty and Inequality. In: Congdon WJ, Kling JR, Mullainathan S, editors. *Policy and Choice*: Brookings Institution Press. pp. 140-172.
- 10 McGaughey E (2015) Behavioural Economics and Labour Law: LSE Legal Studies Working Paper No. 20/2014. In: Ludlow A, Blackham A, editors. *New Frontiers in Empirical Labour Law Research*: King's College London Law School.
- 11 Quigley R, Baines J (2014) *The social value of a job*. Wellington: Ministry for Primary Industries.
- 12 Wilkinson R, Marmot M, editors (2003) *Social determinants of health: the solid facts* 2nd edition. Copenhagen: World Health Organization.
- 13 Winefield AH, Delfabbro PH, Winefield HR, Duong D, Malvaso C (2017) The Psychological Effects of Unemployment and Unsatisfactory Employment on Young Adults: Findings from a 10-Year Longitudinal Study. *The Journal of Genetic Psychology* 178: 246-251.
- 14 World Bank (2013) *World Bank Development Report (2013). Jobs*. Washington DC: World Bank.
- 15 Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (2017) Labour market terms explained. Retrieved from [www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/employment-skills/labour-market-reports/pacific-peoples-labour-market-trends/march-2017/terms-explained](http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/employment-skills/labour-market-reports/pacific-peoples-labour-market-trends/march-2017/terms-explained).
- 16 Statistics New Zealand (2023) Unemployment rate. Retrieved from [www.stats.govt.nz/news/unemployment-rate-at-3-4-percent/#:~:text=The%20primary%20contribution%20to%20higher,the%20HLFS%20began%20in%201986](http://www.stats.govt.nz/news/unemployment-rate-at-3-4-percent/#:~:text=The%20primary%20contribution%20to%20higher,the%20HLFS%20began%20in%201986).
- 17 Lucas RE, Diener E (2003) The happy worker: Hypotheses about the role of positive affect in worker productivity. In: Barrick MR, Ryan AM, editors. *Personality and work: Reconsidering the role of personality in organizations (The organizational frontiers series)*. San Francisco: Jossey Bass.
- 18 Statistics New Zealand (2021) *New Zealand General Social Survey 2021*. Wellington: Statistics New Zealand.