



THE PRIME MINISTER'S RESULTS FOR NEW ZEALANDERS

Prime Minister John Key has set 10 challenging results for the public sector to achieve over the next three to five years. Ministers and a public sector chief executive have been appointed to lead each result and will be accountable for demonstrating real progress against his or her result. These results fall into five themes:

Reducing long-term welfare dependency

1. Reduce the number of people who have been on a working age benefit for more than 12 months.

Supporting vulnerable children

2. Increase participation in early childhood education.
3. Increase infant immunisation rates and reduce the incidence of rheumatic fever.
4. Reduce the number of assaults on children.

Boosting skills and employment

5. Increase the proportion of 18 year olds with NCEA level 2 or equivalent qualification.
6. Increase the proportion of 25-34 year olds with advanced trade qualifications, diplomas and degrees (at level 4 or above).

Reducing crime

7. Reduce the rates of total crime, violent crime and youth crime.
8. Reduce reoffending.

Improving interaction with government

9. New Zealand businesses have a one-stop online shop for all government advice and support they need to run and grow their business.
10. New Zealanders can complete their transactions with the Government easily in a digital environment.

REDUCING LONG-TERM WELFARE DEPENDENCY

Lead Minister: Paula Bennett

Lead CEO: Ministry of Social Development
Chief Executive Brendan Boyle

Result 1: Reduce the number of people who have been on a working age benefit for more than 12 months.

Why this is important for New Zealand

- About 215,000 people have been on a benefit for more than 12 months.
- Currently, 12 per cent of our working age population is on a main benefit and over 230,000 children live in benefit-dependent homes. More than 170,000 people have spent the majority of the past decade on welfare.
- In December 2011, 31.6 per cent (or 68,478) of people receiving a working age benefit for more than 12 months were Maori and 7.7 per cent (16,703) were Pacific people.
- The annual cost of working age benefit payments is now over \$8 billion and the lifetime costs are much higher.
- Being out of paid work raises the risk of poverty. The longer a person is out of the workforce the harder it is to return to employment.
- Being in paid work, rather than on a benefit, has proven positive impacts on health and wellbeing. It brings in extra income, builds pride and connects people to their community.

SUPPORTING VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Result 2: Increase participation in early childhood education

Lead Ministers: Tony Ryall and Hekia Parata

Lead CEO: Ministry of Social Development
Chief Executive Brendan Boyle, supported
by Ministry of Education Chief Executive
Lesley Longstone

Why this is important for New Zealand

- In 2011, the participation rate for early childhood education for the total population was 94.7 per cent.
- Within that total, 98.2 per cent of European/Pakeha children attended early childhood education, compared with 90.0 per cent of Maori and 85.9 per cent of Pacific people.
- Regular participation in high quality early childhood education significantly increases a child's chance of future educational success, particularly for children from vulnerable families.
- Results from the OECD PISA 2009 study of student performance at age 15 showed that in practically all OECD countries the students who had attended early childhood education before school outperformed students who had not attended at all – even after accounting for their socio-economic backgrounds.

Result 3: Increase infant immunisation rates and reduce the incidence of rheumatic fever

Lead Minister: Tony Ryall

Lead CEO: Ministry of Social Development
Chief Executive Brendan Boyle, supported
by Ministry of Health Director General
Kevin Woods

Infant immunisation - why this is important for New Zealand

- New Zealand's immunisation coverage for two-year-olds has improved in recent years. It is currently at 92 per cent.
- Immunisation is one of the most effective medical interventions to prevent disease. As well as protecting vaccinated individuals, high immunisation rates help prevent epidemics.

- Children are most vulnerable to infectious disease between three months and 18 months of age and they're more likely to complete all immunisations if they begin early. The current rate of eight-month-old children fully immunised is about 80 per cent.

Rheumatic fever - why this is important for New Zealand

- Rheumatic fever is potentially life-threatening should it develop into rheumatic heart disease. Even when treated, rheumatic heart disease can have a lifelong impact and create significant health costs (recent estimates suggest the cost of treating rheumatic fever is about \$40 million a year).
- Rheumatic fever is a largely preventable reaction to an infectious disease. It is more likely to occur where there is overcrowding and poor housing conditions, but the infection that can lead to rheumatic fever is easily treated if the symptoms are identified correctly and quickly.
- Rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease disproportionately affect Maori and Pacific people, and those in areas of economic deprivation. It is most common in people aged between six and 15 years of age.

Result 4: Reduce the number of assaults on children

Lead Ministers: Tony Ryall and Paula Bennett

**Lead CEO: Ministry of Social Development
Chief Executive Brendan Boyle**

Why this is important for New Zealand

- Current measures are imperfect, but as just one indicator of the size of the wider issue, the Health Minister identified 209 cases of hospitalisation related to assault for 0-14 year olds in 2010. We suspect this understates the prevalence of the issue.
- The cost of not facing up to this challenge is too high – for the children concerned, their families, and also for taxpayers who are required to fund the health and justice systems

BOOSTING SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT

Result 5: Increase the proportion of 18-year-olds with NCEA level 2 or equivalent qualification

Lead Minister: Hekia Parata

**Lead CEO: Ministry of Education Chief
Executive Lesley Longstone**

Why this is important for New Zealand

- Success in education is essential to the Government's goal of building a productive and competitive economy. It also helps New Zealanders develop the skills needed to reach their full potential and contribute to the economy and society.
- A level 2 qualification gives people opportunities in terms of further education, employment, health outcomes and better quality of life.

What we want to achieve in five years

- 85 per cent of 18-year-olds will have NCEA level 2 or equivalent through school or a tertiary institution – up from the current figure of around 68 per cent.

Result 6: Increase the proportion of 25-34 year olds with advanced trade qualifications, diplomas and degrees (at level 4 or above).

Lead Minister: Steven Joyce

**Lead CEO: Ministry of Education Chief
Executive Lesley Longstone**

Why this is important for New Zealand

- An increase in the skill level of our workforce is needed for New Zealand to increase its productivity.
- Currently, 52 per cent of 25- to 34-year olds have an NZQA level 4 qualification or above – up only marginally from 50 per cent in 2006. For Maori, the proportion is only 37 per cent and for Pacific people 31 per cent.

REDUCING CRIME

Lead Minister: Judith Collins

Lead CEO: Ministry of Justice Chief Executive Andrew Bridgman

Result 7: Reduce the rates of total crime, violent crime and youth crime

Result 8: Reduce reoffending

Why this is important for New Zealand

- Research shows that at risk children and young people at risk are much more likely to progress to offending behaviour.
- The crime rate is 26 per cent lower than its peak in 1992 and the percentage of resolved crime is increasing. Latest figures show 9,761 recorded crimes per 100,000 people, the lowest since 1982 - and offender numbers are forecast to fall.
- However, New Zealand has relatively high rates of imprisonment and reoffending, serious offending remains high (although it has fallen in the past two years), and there are still proportionately higher numbers of young Maori entering the criminal justice system.
- Crime affects individuals, families and communities. Lack of employment, a reduced ability to provide family support and inter-generational problems require solutions that not only address the needs of individual offenders but also those of their families and communities.
- Addressing these problems requires comprehensive, cross-agency action.

IMPROVING INTERACTION WITH GOVERNMENT

Result 9: New Zealand businesses have a one-stop online shop for all government advice and support they need to run and grow their business.

Lead Minister: Steven Joyce

Lead CEO: Ministry of Economic Development Chief Executive David Smol

Result 10: New Zealanders can complete their transactions with government easily in a digital environment.

Lead Minister: Amy Adams

Lead CEO: Department of Internal Affairs Acting Chief Executive Peter Mersi (until new Chief Executive Colin MacDonald commences his role on 16 April 2012)

Why this is important for New Zealand

- The public sector provides significant services to businesses and individuals, and the quality and speed of these services makes a difference to businesses' ability to perform, grow and export.
- New technology provides easier and more cost-effective ways for New Zealanders to engage with government.
- Technology also contributes to a public sector where there is continuous innovation and improvement, as it delivers on the expectations and needs of New Zealanders.