

## History in New Zealand by 50 Year Blocks

	c1808	c1858	c1908	c1958	c2008
People, Governance & Ethics	<p><b>The first Māori visits England (1806)</b> Te Manga arrives in London. He is the first Maori known to visit England.</p>	<p><b>First Premier of New Zealand (1856)</b> Henry Sewell is appointed as the first Premier of New Zealand (<i>His support of centralism, over the provinces, was unpopular with the strong provincial following in the House. This made it impossible for him to successfully lead the government and his ministry only lasted a fortnight</i>).</p>	<p><b>New Zealand self-governing (1907)</b> New Zealand changes from being a colony of Great Britain to become a self-governing dominion. (<i>The first issue of Wellington's Dominion is published on the same day</i>).</p>	<p><b>NZ Security Service (1956)</b> The NZ Security Service (later renamed Intelligence Service – NZSIS) is established to collect information and protect NZ from acts of espionage, sabotage and subversion.</p>	<p><b>Kyoto Protocol (2002)</b> New Zealand ratifies the Kyoto Protocol.</p>
			<p><b>Islands incorporated with NZ (1901)</b> The Cook Islands and Niue are formally incorporated within New Zealand.</p>	<p><b>Western Samoa becomes independent (1962)</b></p> <p><b>Cook Islands gains self-governance (1965)</b> Cook Islanders gain self-government but retain New Zealand citizenship.</p>	
	<p><b>Prohibition of removal of Māori (1805)</b> In this year, Governor King of New South Wales issues in order prohibiting the removal of Maori from NZ. (<i>In previous years, several Maori had been kidnapped &amp; taken overseas</i>)</p>	<p><b>The New Zealand Settlements Act is passed (1863)</b> The Act allows for the confiscation of all land (raupatu), without compensation for all North Island tribes said to be acting against the Crown. This was particularly useful for the colonial government in the Waikato and Taranaki areas where the Land Wars were the most intense. New European settlers were given confiscated the land. By December 1864, 1.2 million acres of Māori land had been confiscated under the Act.</p>	<p><b>Tohunga Suppression Act (1907)</b> The Tohunga Suppression Act is passed. (<i>At the instigation of Maui Pomare. Pomare also helped establish two Royal Commissions dealing with Māori land grievances</i>)</p>	<p><b>Last hanging in NZ (1957)</b> Walter Bolton is hanged for poisoning his wife. This is the last hanging in New Zealand.</p>	<p><b>Population over 4 million (2003)</b> Population reaches past 4million.</p>

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	<p><b>First Pakeha (1806)</b> First Pakeha women to arrive in New Zealand were Kathleen Hagerty and Charlotte Edgar, both escaped convicts from New South Wales</p>	<p><b>North and South stays together (1865)</b> A parliamentary motion to politically separate the North and South Islands is defeated by 31 votes to 17.</p>	<p><b>1 Million people (1908)</b> The New Zealand population reaches 1 million. <i>(At this time 10% of the population resided in Auckland and more than 50% were in cities. This raised concerns about economic sustainability and the quality of lifestyle in the new urban areas)</i></p>	<p><b>NZRFU announces no Maori will be selected (1959)</b> The NZRFU announces no Maori will be selected for the South African tour in 1960. In spite of a petition with 100,000 signatures, the Labour Government refuses to stop the tour.</p>	<p><b>Seabed and Foreshore Agreement (2004)</b> The Seabed and Foreshore Bill is passed, making all land up to the high tide mark property of the Crown. <i>(Both the passing of the Bill and the process with which the government went about it, greatly upsets large numbers of Māori, causing a huge hiko to march to Parliament and sparking the formation of the Māori Party.)</i></p>
		<p><b>Land wars begin (1860)</b> The land wars begin when British regulars and Taranaki volunteers clash with Taranaki and Ngati Ruanui forces at Waireka pa in Taranaki. <i>(these wars continued for about 10 years).</i></p>	<p><b>Waterside workers strike (1913)</b> Nationwide strikes by waterside workers begin, threatening the national economy. The government uses special constables, nicknamed ‘Massey’s cossacks’ to help break the strike. <i>(This leads to a series of clashes between government ‘specials’ and workers and the occupation of Auckland wharves by over a thousand farmers. The strike ends on 20th December)</i></p>	<p><b>Maori Language (1950s)</b> Māori urban migration continues. Māori families are ‘pepper-potted’ in predominantly non-Māori suburbs, preventing the reproduction of Māori community and speech patterns. Māori families choose to speak English, and Māori children are raised as English speakers. <a href="http://www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz/english/issues_e/hist/index.shtml">http://www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz/english/issues_e/hist/index.shtml</a></p>	<p><b>Civil Unions Act (2004)</b> The Civil Unions Act is passed, creating the institution of the civil union, is open to hetero and homosexual couples.</p>

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		<p><b>Māori seats established (1867)</b> Four Maori seats are established in Parliament, with only adult Maori males able to vote for them. <i>(this gave Maori men universal suffrage, 12 years before European men in NZ. They were the first indigenous people to vote in a European-governed country).</i></p>	<p><b>Peter Fraser jailed (1917)</b> Peter Fraser, future Prime Minister of NZ, is found guilty of sedition for making an anti-conscription speech and is sentenced to 12 months in jail. <i>(He became Prime Minister in 1940, during World War2)</i></p>		<p><b>Smoking in the workplace is banned (2004)</b></p>
		<p><b>More Europeans than Māori (1858)</b> This is the first year in which the census records that the settlers of European origin outnumber Maori in NZ.</p>			<p><b>Waitangi Tribunal (2005)</b> The government places a deadline on claims to the Waitangi Tribunal by 2008, and settlement on all claims by 2020.</p>

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		<p><b>King Potatau I (1858)</b> Te Wherowhero is crowned as Potatau I, the first Maori King, in a ceremony at Ngaruawahia. (<i>His kingdom was a loose federation of tribes, united in their resolution to not sell any more land</i>)</p> <p><b>Unjust land sale at Waitara (1860)</b> Governor Thomas Gore Browne condones unjust land sale at Waitara and ignites the first battles of the New Zealand Wars that last through most of the decade.</p> <p><b>First Newspapers (1861-1863)</b> First daily newspaper, <i>Otago Daily Times</i>, is published, edited by Julius Vogel.</p> <p>Auckland's <i>NZ Herald</i> is first published.</p> <p><b>Influenza Epidemic (1852-1853)</b> An influenza epidemic broke out in New Zealand.</p>			<p><b>Carbon Tax (2005)</b> The Labour government abandons the proposed carbon tax.</p>
<b>Biology Biodiversity/ Ecosystem</b>	<p><b>First grape vines planted (1819)</b> In this year, grape vines are first planted in NZ, at Kerikeri</p>	<p><b>Butter and cheese exported (1847)</b> The first shipment of butter and cheese is sent from the South Island to Australia.</p>	<p><b>Stock Act (1908)</b> The Stock Act was passed to control and prevent infectious diseases in stock</p>	<p><b>First shipment of Beef cattle (1958)</b> The first shipment of beef cattle to the United States leaves the country.</p>	<p><b>Fonterra Cooperative Group (2001)</b> The Fonterra Cooperative Group is formed by its 11 600 dairy farmer owners, becoming the world's largest dairy exporter.</p>

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	<b>Seal exports begin (1805)</b>	<b>Australian Opossum Released (1858)</b> The first Australian opossum is released at Riverton in Southland.		<b>Chinese Gooseberry (1959)</b> Turners and Growers announce that the Chinese gooseberry, grown in New Zealand since 1904, would now be exported as the kiwifruit.	<b>The Varroa Bee (2006)</b> The Varroa bee mite is found in the South Island for the first time, threatening the regions honey production.
		<b>NZ's First Mouse (1862)</b> The first mouse is seen on the shores of Lake Wakatipu.		<b>End of Whaling (1964)</b> New Zealander Trevor Norton harpooned the last whale killed from a NZ and the last whaling station in NZ is closed.	
<b>Geology Land/ Minerals</b>		<b>Brunner discovers coal (1848)</b> Thomas Brunner discovers coal on the West Coast. Subsequently, the field was named after him.		<b>Scott Base established (1957)</b> Scott Base is established in the Antarctic ( <i>Sir Edmund Hillary was the first base commander</i> )	<b>Coal Mine at Happy Valley (2005)</b> The Environment Court rules that Solid Energy can proceed with a coal mine at Happy Valley, West Coast, resulting in continued protests and the relocation of hundreds of endangered endemic Powelliphanta snails.

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		<p><b>Gold discovered (1852)</b> The first payable gold in NZ is discovered at Driving Creek in the Corromandel by Charles Ring. When news of this published, NZ's first gold rush begins. <i>(This first gold rush only lasted about 3 months).</i></p>		<p><b>South Pole reached (1958)</b> Sir Edmund Hillary leads a team to successfully reach the South Pole using modified tractors. <i>(It was the first land team to reach the Pole since the ill-fated Scott expedition in 1912)</i></p>	
		<p><b>West Coast gold rush (1865)</b> The West Coast gold rush begins. Many Australian miners arrive over the next two years. <i>(This gold rush lasted for about 3 years).</i></p>		<p><b>Antarctic Treaty (1959)</b> The Antarctic Treaty is signed by NZ and 11 other nations. The treaty bans military activity, stops territorial claims and preserves Antarctica for scientific research.</p>	
		<p><b>Oil is Discovered (1866)</b> Oil is discovered at Moturoa, near New Plymouth.</p>		<p><b>Marsden Point Oil Refinery (1964)</b> The Marsden Point Oil Refinery near Whangarei opens.</p>	
		<p><b>Shipment of Phosphate (1867)</b> The first imported shipment of phosphate (450 tonnes of guano) arrives.</p>			
		<p><b>First Shipment of Coal (1864)</b> The first shipment of coal was made from the West Coast.</p>			
<b>Technology</b>		<p><b>Gas Lamps (1863)</b> Gas lamps are first lit in the streets of Dunedin. <i>(Two years passed before Auckland has gaslight in 1865. The capital, Wellington, did not get gas until 1871).</i></p>	<p><b>Movies begin (1908)</b> NZ's first permanent moving picture show is established at His Majesty's Theatre, Wellington.</p>	<p><b>Open heart surgery (1958)</b> Brain Barratt-Boyes performs the first open heart surgery in NZ using a heart-lung bypass machine.</p>	<p><b>Improving Broadband (2006)</b> The government announces that Telecom must 'unbundle' local loop services to help improve broadband uptake.</p>

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		<b>Telegraph Cable (1866)</b> The first telegraph cable is laid across Cook Strait.	<b>Rutherford's Nobel Prize (1908)</b> Physicist Ernest Rutherford gains the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his investigations into the disintegration of the elements and the chemistry of radioactive substances. <i>(He successfully 'split the atom' a few years later)</i>	<b>Wairakei Power Station (1958)</b> Wairakei geothermal power station begins commercial power production. <i>(It was the world's second geothermal power station).</i>	
		<b>First Electric Telegraph Line (1862)</b> First electric telegraph line opens – from Christchurch to Lyttelton.	<b>Wireless Telegraphy (1908)</b> The first public demonstration of wireless telegraphy, by two Dunedin school boys, Stanton Hicks and Rawson Stack.	<b>TV (1960)</b> Regular television broadcasts begin in NZ, starting in Auckland.	
<b>Infrastructure</b>		<b>First steamship (1851)</b> Governor Wynyard, the first steamship built in NZ, is launched in Auckland.	<b>First flight in NZ (1903)</b> Richard Pearse makes the first powered flight in New Zealand, and possibly the first in the world. <i>(This was possibly about 9 months before the Wright brothers. There is disagreement over this date – Pearse's first flight may have occurred one year before or after this)</i>	<b>First Holden (1957)</b> The first New Zealand Holden was produced by General Motors	<b>Overlander Service (2006)</b> The Overlander train service between Wellington and Auckland, due to be axed, gets a last minute reprieve.
		<b>Lyttelton-Christchurch rail tunnel (1860)</b> Work begins on the Lyttelton-Christchurch rail tunnel.	<b>Main trunk completed (1908)</b> The Auckland-Wellington main trunk railway line is completed.		

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		<p><b>Steam Train (1863)</b> The first steam train service opens from Christchurch to Ferrymead.</p>	<p><b>Grafton Bridge (1910)</b> Grafton Bridge, Auckland, opens. It is the largest single span concrete bridge in the world.</p>		
		<p><b>Overseas borrowing to finance infrastructure (1868)</b> Colonial Treasurer Julius Vogel announces a programme of massive overseas borrowing to finance immigration and infrastructure (railways, ports and telegraphs)</p> <p><b>First Meat Exporting Freezing Works (1881)</b> New Zealand's first Meat Export Freezing Works were established by the New Zealand Refrigerating Company at Burnside, near Dunedin in 1881.</p>	<p><b>First car journey along the centre route (1912)</b> The first car journey along the 'centre route' between Wellington and Auckland commences.</p>		