



<https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/fair-chance-all-breaking-cycle-persistent-disadvantage-productivity-commission-inquiry-material-2021-2023>

Productivity Commission inquiry

A fair chance for all: Breaking the cycle of persistent disadvantage - Productivity Commission inquiry material 2021 - 2023

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Material on this page was migrated from the Productivity Commission website productivity.govt.nz in May 2024 after the Productivity Commission was disestablished in February 2024.

Part of:

[Productivity Commission \(2011 - 2024\) \(/information-and-services/nz-economy/productivity/productivity-commission-2011-2024\)](#)

Corporate author:

[The Treasury \(/author-corporate/treasury\)](#)

[New Zealand Productivity Commission \(/author-corporate/new-zealand-productivity-commission\)](#)

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The Productivity Commission was asked to look at the persistence of disadvantage, influenced by the quality of economic inclusion and social mobility.

The Productivity Commission examined their influence on individuals, different population groups and wider society, and the link to productivity and economic performance to:

- generate new insights about the dynamics and drivers of persistent disadvantage, and the incidence/impacts across different population groups, including social and economic factors; and
- develop recommendations for actions and system changes to break or mitigate the cycle of disadvantage (both within a person's lifetime and intergenerationally).

From the Productivity Commission's unique and specialist perspective it examined why 697,000 New Zealanders experience persistent disadvantage.

The Productivity Commission considered that people who are experiencing persistent disadvantage need to be empowered to influence the decisions that affect their lives. Through more effective support in their communities from people they trust and can hold accountable, and through long-term decisions and actions addressing the

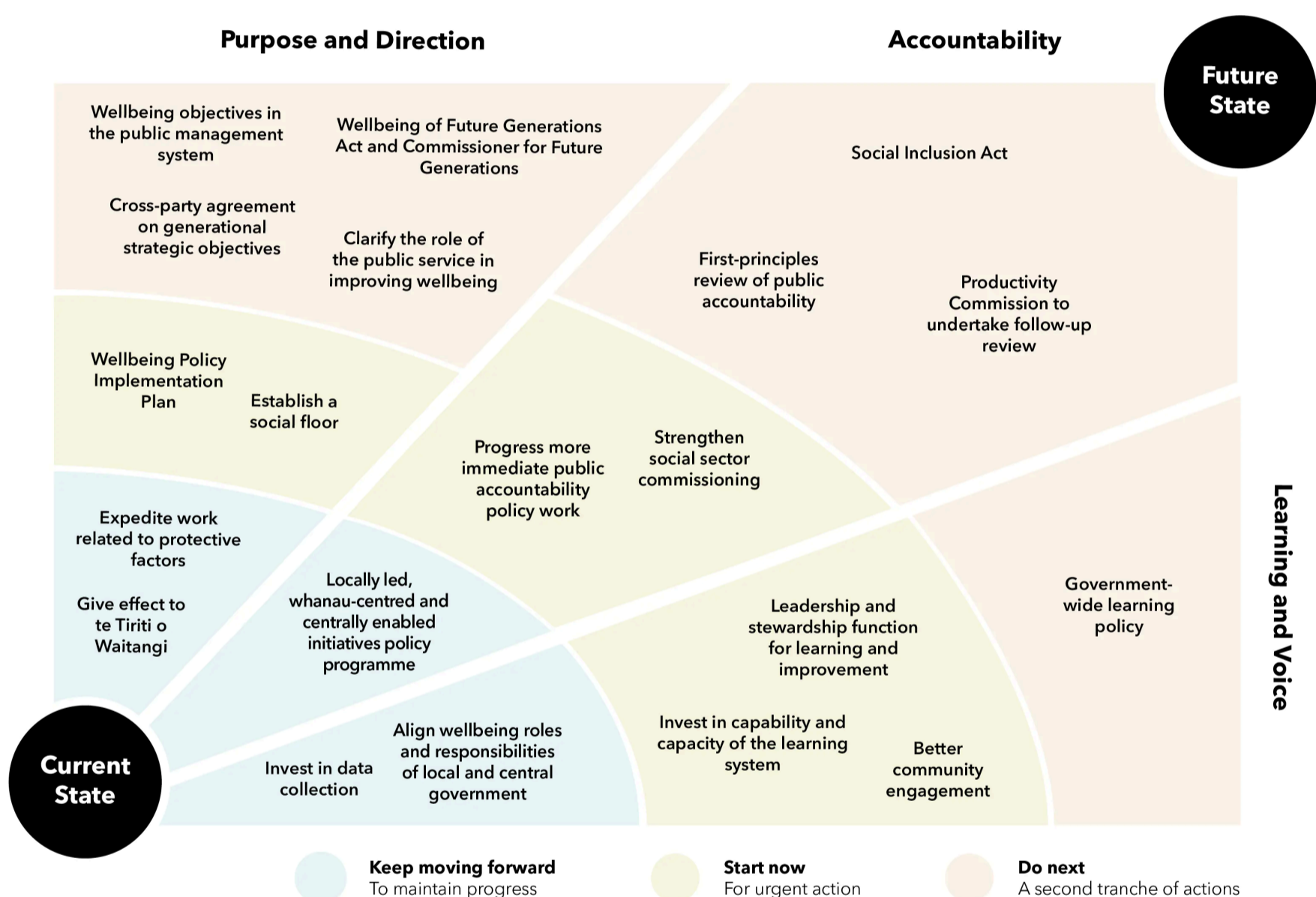
underlying causes, persistent disadvantage in Aotearoa New Zealand will steadily reduce over time.

The Productivity Commission's final report contained 20 findings and 20 recommendations.

The Productivity Commission's pathway forward

The road map summarises the Productivity Commission's headline recommendations and its suggested order of priority. These recommendations were intended as a package - interlocking and reinforcing of each other. Its suggested phasing of action is: 'start now' (for urgent action), 'do next' (a second tranche of actions) and 'keep moving forward' (to maintain current progress).

Implementation road map details the system shifts the Commission has recommended with a suggested phasing of action



Government response

The Productivity Commission considered that the Government response was supportive of the findings and recommendations made in its final report, noting that many of the recommendations align with existing work programmes, with others deserving of further investigation.

Timeline

- Scoping - 15 June 2021
 - Public engagement
- Terms of reference - December 2021

- Interim report - 29 September 2022
 - Public submissions closed - 11 November 2022
 - Summary of submissions - February 2023
- Final report - 31 May 2023
- Evaluation - 31 October 2023
- Government response – 7 September 2023

Key documents

Final report and Government response

Expand the table below

Final Report: A Fair Chance for All Inquiry		
Doc. Date	Creator	Title
7 Sep 2023	Minister of Finance	Government response to the Productivity Commission inquiry into economic inclusion and social mobility – A Fair Chance for All (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-government-response-to-the-productivity-commission-inquiry-into-economic-inclusion-and-social-mobility-a-fair-chance-for-all.pdf) (PDF 434.77 KB)
1 Jul 2023	New Zealand Productivity Commission	A quantitative analysis of disadvantage and how it persists in Aotearoa New Zealand: A supplementary report to the A Fair Chance for All inquiry (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-afcfa-quantitative-report-final-july-2023.pdf) (PDF 2.94 MB)
1 Jul 2023	New Zealand Productivity Commission	Accessible version - A quantitative analysis of disadvantage and how it persists in Aotearoa New Zealand (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-a-quantitative-report-final-28july2023.docx) (DOCX 2.5 MB)
1 Jul 2023	New Zealand Productivity Commission	Figures and tables - Quantitative analysis report - A fair chance for all (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-disadvantage-and-how-it-persists-2023-figures-and-tables.xlsx) (XLSX 535.11 KB)
1 Jun 2023	New Zealand Productivity Commission	Final report - A fair chance for all - Breaking the cycle of persistent disadvantage (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-fair-chance-for-all-final-report-june-2023.pdf) (PDF 3.44 MB)
1 Jun 2023	New Zealand Productivity Commission	Overview - Final report - A fair chance for all - Breaking the cycle of persistent disadvantage (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-overview-final-report-june-2023.pdf) (PDF 671.55 KB)

Terms of reference and initial scoping document

Expand the table below

Terms of Reference: A Fair Chance for All Inquiry		
Doc. Date	Creator	Title

Doc. Date	Creator	Title
21 Dec 2021	Minister of Finance	Terms of Reference for an inquiry into economic inclusion and social mobility – A fair chance for all (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-tor-eism-inquiry.PDF) (PDF 407.13 KB)
1 Dec 2021	New Zealand Productivity Commission	A fair chance for all: Where should we focus? Your feedback (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-summary-of-public-feedback.pdf) (PDF 2.11 MB)
27 Sep 2021	Haemata Limited	Haemata wānanga feedback on the Terms of Reference - A fair chance for all (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-haemata-report-on-wananga-with-maori.pdf) (PDF 619.63 KB)
27 Sep 2021	Text Ferret	Consultation on the Terms of Reference: 'A fair chance for all' inquiry (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-text-ferret-report-on-public-feedback.pdf) (PDF 386.45 KB)
19 Jul 2021	New Zealand Productivity Commission	A fair chance for all - Scoping the Terms of Reference for an inquiry (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-consultation-paper-a-fair-chance-for-all-v2.pdf) (PDF 590.62 KB)

Research

Expand the table below

Research: A Fair Chance for All Inquiry		
Doc. Date	Creator	Title
3 May 2023	Deliberate	Accessible version - Causal diagrams to support 'a fair chance for all' (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-causal-diagrams-word-document.docx) (DOCX 13.16 MB)
2 May 2023	Deliberate	Causal diagrams to support 'a fair chance for all' (diagrams only) (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-fairchanceclid-3.pdf) (PDF 406.78 KB)
1 May 2023	Deliberate	Causal diagrams to support 'a fair chance for all' (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-a-fair-chance-for-all-causal-diagrams-20230503.pdf) (PDF 5.44 MB)
1 Feb 2023	New Zealand Institute for Economic Research; Fry, Julie	Accessible version - Working together: Re-focusing public accountability to achieve better lives (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-nzeir-working-together-in-accessible-format.docx) (DOCX 3.58 MB)
1 Feb 2023	FrankAdvice	Accessible version - A learning system for addressing persistent disadvantage (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-frankadvice-accessible-format.docx) (DOCX 2.22 MB)
1 Feb 2023	FrankAdvice	A learning system for addressing persistent disadvantage (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-a-learning-system-for-addressing-persistent-disadvantage-final.pdf) (PDF 2.09 MB)

Doc. Date	Creator	Title
1 Feb 2023	New Zealand Institute for Economic Research; Fry, Julie; Wilson, Peter	Working together: Re-focusing public accountability to achieve better lives (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-nzier-accountability-report-final.pdf) (PDF 1.93 MB)
1 Sep 2022	Victoria University of Wellington; Prickett, Kate C; Paine, Sarah-Jane; Atatoa Carr, Polly; Morton, Susan	Family resources across the early life course and children's development in Aotearoa New Zealand (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-family-resources-across-the-early-life-course-and-childrens-development-in-nz.pdf) (PDF 2.13 MB)
1 Aug 2022	New Zealand Productivity Commission	Te puna kōrero: Understanding persistent disadvantage in Aotearoa New Zealand (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-te-puna-korero-understanding-persistent-disadvantage-1.pdf) (PDF 2.7 MB)
9 Jun 2022	Haemata Limited	Colonisation, Racism, and Wellbeing - A fair chance for all (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-nzpc-colonisation-racism-wellbeing-final.pdf) (PDF 508.32 KB)
1 Feb 2022	Fry, Julie	Together alone: A review of joined-up social services (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-together-alone-a-review-of-joined-up-social-services.pdf) (PDF 1.3 MB)
1 Feb 2022	Fry, Julie	Summary - Together alone: A review of joined-up social services (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-summary-together-alone.pdf) (PDF 562.17 KB)

Research (externally hosted)

- 15 Aug 2022 | Creedy, John; Ta, Quy | [Changing Family Incomes in New Zealand 2007–20 | Policy Quarterly \(victoria.ac.nz\) \(https://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/pq/article/view/7711\)](https://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/pq/article/view/7711)
- 15 Aug 2022 | Davies, Lisa; Webber, Andrew; Timmins, Jason | [The Nature of Disadvantage. Faced by Children in New Zealand: implications for policy and service provision | Policy Quarterly \(victoria.ac.nz\) \(https://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/pq/article/view/7714\)](https://ojs.victoria.ac.nz/pq/article/view/7714)

Interim report

Expand the table below

Interim Report: A Fair Chance for All Inquiry		
Doc. Date	Creator	Title
1 Feb 2023	New Zealand Productivity Commission	A fair chance for all - Your feedback - What we heard from your submissions on the interim report (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-summary-of-submissions-final-21-feb.pdf) (PDF 1.68 MB)
15 Nov 2022	Haemata Limited	Wānanga feedback report - A fair chance for all (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-haemata-wananga-feedback-report-a-fair-chance-for-all.pdf) (PDF 412.6 KB)

Doc. Date	Creator	Title
5 Oct 2022	New Zealand Productivity Commission	A summary of Pacific leaders' views on the Fair Chance for all interim report (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-public-summary-of-talanoa-session.pdf) (PDF 126.71 KB)
29 Sep 2022	New Zealand Productivity Commission	Interim report - A fair chance for all - Breaking the cycle of persistent disadvantage (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-productivity-commission-a-fair-chance-for-all-interim-report.pdf) (PDF 3.04 MB)

Submissions

[Public submissions on initial inquiry scope - A fair chance for all \(/publications/public-submissions-initial-inquiry-scope-fair-chance-all\)](/publications/public-submissions-initial-inquiry-scope-fair-chance-all)

[Public submissions on interim report - A fair chance for all \(/publications/public-submissions-interim-report-fair-chance-all\)](/publications/public-submissions-interim-report-fair-chance-all)

Evaluation

Expand the table below

Evaluation: A Fair Chance for All Inquiry		
Doc. Date	Creator	Title
29 Sep 2023	Fischer-Smith, Ruth	Independent evaluation of the A fair chance for all: Breaking the cycle of persistent disadvantage inquiry and its final report (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-fair-chance-evaluation-report-29-sept-2023-final.pdf) (PDF 585.48 KB)
5 Sep 2023	New Zealand Productivity Commission	A fair chance for all: Independent evaluation - Online survey (/sites/default/files/2024-05/pc-inq-fcfa-afca-online-survey-report-5-sep-2023.pdf) (PDF 401.88 KB)

Related content

Related information:

[Born in bad times: Economic conditions, selection and employment \(PCWP 2024/01\) \(/publications/born-bad-times-economic-conditions-selection-and-employment-pcwp-2024-01\)](/publications/born-bad-times-economic-conditions-selection-and-employment-pcwp-2024-01)

[Multidimensional disadvantage and wellbeing \(PCWP 2023/01\) \(/publications/multidimensional-disadvantage-and-wellbeing-pcwp-2023-01\)](/publications/multidimensional-disadvantage-and-wellbeing-pcwp-2023-01)

[The benefits of reducing persistent disadvantage - Research note \(/publications/pcrp/benefits-reducing-persistent-disadvantage-research-note\)](/publications/pcrp/benefits-reducing-persistent-disadvantage-research-note)

[Productivity Commission \(2011 - 2024\) \(/information-and-services/nz-economy/productivity/productivity-commission-2011-2024\)](/information-and-services/nz-economy/productivity/productivity-commission-2011-2024)

Productivity Commission material

Material incorporated in the Treasury website since May 2024:

Inquiries (/information-and-services/nz-economy/productivity/productivity-commission-2011-2024#collection-group-heading-0)

Working papers / research (/publications/research-and-commentary/discontinued-series/productivity-commission-working-papers-and-research-papers-2013-2024)

Corporate documents (/information-and-services/nz-economy/productivity/productivity-commission-2011-2024#collection-group-heading-2)

Disestablishment February 2024 (/information-and-services/nz-economy/productivity/productivity-commission-2011-2024)