



NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE
Manatū Aorere

4 JUNE 2024

Weekly Global Economic Round-up

MARKET INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Regional updates

International

New Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge concluded

- On 24 May the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) approved a new Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge. Parties to the Treaty will provide for a new disclosure requirement, where applicants for patents based on genetic resources or on traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, must specify the country of origin or source of the genetic resources, or the Indigenous Peoples or local community that provided the traditional knowledge. Twenty-nine WIPO Member States have signed the Treaty, which will enter into force three months after at least 15 of them have deposited their instruments of ratification. New Zealand is not a signatory. [Learn more here](#).
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Domestic

Minister of Finance delivers 2024 budget

- Minister of Finance Nicola Willis delivered the 2024 New Zealand budget last week. A central part of the budget was the government's implementation of tax cuts, which will be delivered on 31 July. Spending will also be focused on areas including education, law and order, infrastructure, and defence. Minister Willis outlined the target of a return to surplus in the 2027/28 fiscal year. [Read more about Budget 2024 here](#).
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Americas

APEC Ministers Meetings held in Peru

- The Asia-Pacific Economic Community (APEC) held the Second Senior Officials Meeting (SOM2) Ministerial in May in Arequipa, Peru. Three ministerial meetings achieved consensus statements: the [Women and the Economy Forum](#), the (first ever) [APEC Joint Ministerial Meeting on Women and Trade](#), and the [Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting](#) (MRT). This was the first MRT consensus statement since 2021. The MRT Statement included outcomes on non-tariff barriers, trade and climate change, support for World Trade Organisation reform, and the e-commerce moratorium. Minister Chris Penk, representing New Zealand on behalf of the Minister for Trade, expressed support of APEC's role as the premier regional forum for trade and economic issues, and how it will help deliver the Government's objective of doubling exports in the next ten years.
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North Asia

Korea New Zealand Free Trade Agreement

- On 28 May, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Ministry for Primary Industries met with Korean counterparts for the Sixth Joint Commission of the Korea New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (KNZFTA). Discussions canvassed the success of the agreement, which has seen two-way trade more than double to nearly NZ\$9 billion since entry into force in 2015, and opportunities for further improvement and cooperation. New Zealand access to the Korean market continues to improve under KNZFTA. Sixty seven percent of New Zealand's exports entered Korea tariff-free in 2023, and this will rise to 80 percent by 2025. Avocados can now enter Korea tariff-free and the tariff rate quota for butter was phased out in January 2024. Officials are continuing to seek market access for additional horticultural products. If you are interested in knowing more about KNZFTA, including how you can take advantage of it as an exporter or importer, see the [MFAT webpage for the KNZFTA here](#).

China, South Korea, and Japan leadership meet

- In Seoul city, President of South Korea Yoon Suk-yeol, Prime Minister of Japan Fumio Kishida, and Premier of China Li Qiang met and issued a joint declaration in areas of climate change, people-to-people exchanges, the trilateral free trade agreement, and ageing societies. They also discussed maintaining peace, stability, and prosperity on the Korean peninsula and denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula. This was the first summit held between the three countries in four years.
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North Asia

European Central Bank set to cut interest rates

- The European Central Bank (ECB) has sent a clear signal that it will cut interest rates from their historic highs next week after Eurozone inflation fell close to the bank's two percent target. In an interview with Financial Times, the ECB's Chief Economist commented: "barring major surprises, at this point in time there is enough in what we see to remove the top level of restriction". The ECB now looks almost certain to be one of the first major central banks to cut rates, having been criticised for being one of the last to raise them after the biggest inflation surge for a generation three years ago. The Fed and Bank of England are not expected to cut rates before the northern summer.
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External links

The following links may provide useful information to businesses:

- [NZTE](#) has a website focused on providing COVID-19 information for exporters. They've also launched [myNZTE](#), an interactive digital portal of insights and tools available to all New Zealand exporters.
- The Treasury releases a [weekly economic update](#) every Friday. Stats NZ has published a [data portal](#) with near real-time economic indicators.
- MBIE publishes a [sector reports series](#) which provides regularly updated reports on all industry sectors that make up the New Zealand economy. These include official economic data and the challenges and opportunities that face New Zealand's industry sectors.
- [Business.govt.nz](#) provides tools and advice from across government to save small businesses' time and help make the business a success.
- MFAT has created a [tariff finder](#) which is designed to help goods exporters and importers maximise benefits from New Zealand's Free Trade Agreements and compare tariffs in 136 other markets.
- The all of government [Trade Barriers](#) website can be used to register any trade barriers experienced or issues exporting to an offshore market. Queries can be sent via the website or through the MFAT Exporter Helpline 0800 824 605. Enquiries will be sent to the government agency best placed to answer.
- Tatauranga Aotearoa Stats NZ provides official data on the value of New Zealand's exports and imports of both goods and services, by commodity type via the [New Zealand Trade Dashboard](#). This interactive dashboard is updated every quarter and allows for filtering by country and by commodity type.

More info

More reports

View full list of market reports from MFAT at www.mfat.govt.nz/market-reports

If you would like to request a topic for reporting please email exports@mfat.net

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To contact the Export Helpdesk

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