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# By focusing on six key enablers New Zealand has the opportunity to capture transformative economic benefits with Generative AI



Generative Al could significantly boost annual productivity growth, meaning New Zealand's productivity will be 15% higher by 2038



**2X** 

Increase in annual Productivity growth



**275** HOURS

Unlocked annually per worker to reinvest on high-value tasks



New Zealand's export driven economy and skilled workforce smooths the path to adoption, but it must strengthen digital maturity and enterprise confidence

#### **Digital Maturity Index**



**20**<sup>th</sup>

in the OECE



74%

Of NZ corporate leaders worry that their organisation lacks a plan to implement Gen Al



Generative Al is expected to add NZ\$76B to New Zealand's annual GDP by 2038

#### **Annual GDP**



Higher relative to baseline

#### **Annual GDP Growth Rate**



+45%

Higher relative to baseline

## 4

Focusing on six key enablers is critical to ensure New Zealand can fully realise the benefits of Generative Al

6

Enablers of Gen Al

**Access to infrastructure** 

Skilled workforces
Clear policy framework

Enterprise readiness

Collaborative ecosystem

Clear policy framework

Public trust and license to operate





# How Generative AI can transform the New Zealand economy



### Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that can create new content

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that can create new content, like text, images, or music, by learning patterns from existing data. They can then be fine-tuned for specific use cases and act as a base for applications.

These models can be used across a variety of domains, creating value by automating mundane tasks, aiding in the creation and generation of new ideas, advising on complex problems, and enabling enhanced exploration of large amounts of data.

#### An overview of Generative Al



### Components of Generative AI

Cloud infrastructure and computer hardware

Training data

Neural networks & deep learning Foundational models (e.g., LLMs) Model fine-tuning (e.g., RLHF<sup>1</sup>)

Interfaces & applications



Value delivered

Automating Reducing the need for humans to engage in time-consuming administrative tasks

Creating Generating new ideas in areas such as product design and content creation

Advising and facilitating decision-making Acting as copilots, guiding workers through complex problems

Exploration Enabling exploration, interrogation and synthesis of large datasets for improved understanding



#### **Types of models**



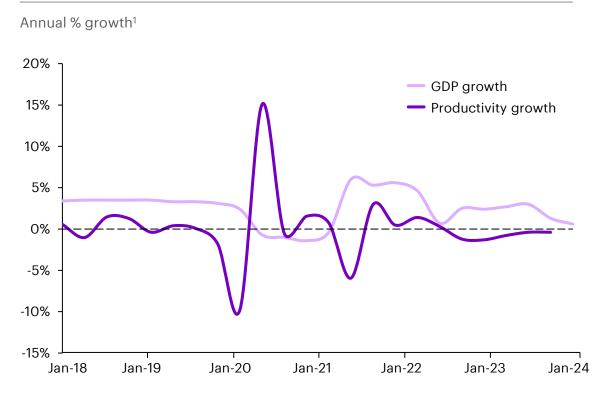
**Example usage** 

Text	Code & data	Image	Audio & voice	Video & 3D
Marketing & sales	Code generation	Image generation	Voice synthesis	Video editing and generation
Knowledge management	Data exploration	Design	Patient care	3D model generation
Research	Website builders	Social media content	Customer support	Gaming & metaverse

Multimodal models (can process and output multiple types of data)

# Generative AI can address declining productivity and GDP growth in New Zealand by unlocking new business models and uplifting productivity

# New Zealand faces challenging economic conditions with low GDP and negative productivity growth



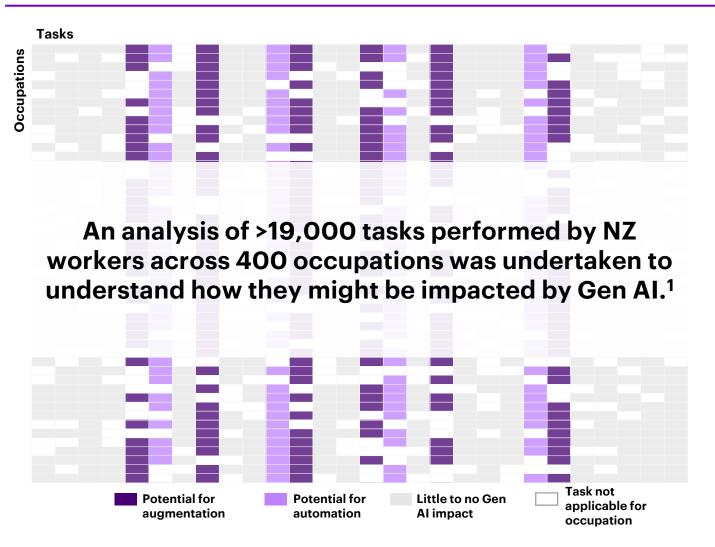
Generative AI can help renew economic progress in New Zealand and address long standing structural economic challenges in two key ways:

- ❖ Generative AI can support the development of new, globally scalable business models that overcome the limitations of New Zealand's size and geographic isolation.
- Generative AI can reinvigorate productivity growth by automating routine tasks and augmenting workers' skills and capabilities.

# The economic opportunity of Generative AI in New Zealand



# Generative Al's productivity-boosting potential could help with 38% of work tasks across the economy



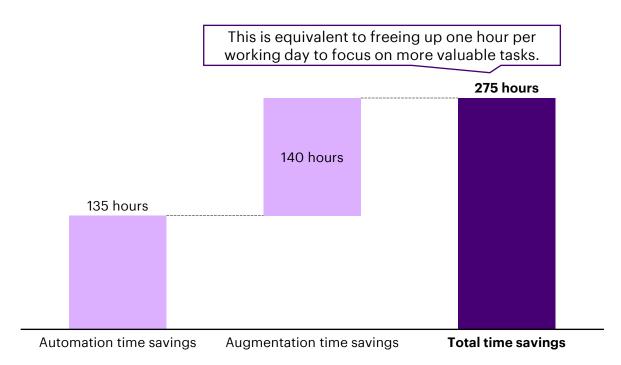
# We found that Generative AI could help with 38% of tasks

- ▶ 24% of tasks could be augmented with Gen AI.
- 14% of tasks could be automated with Gen AI.

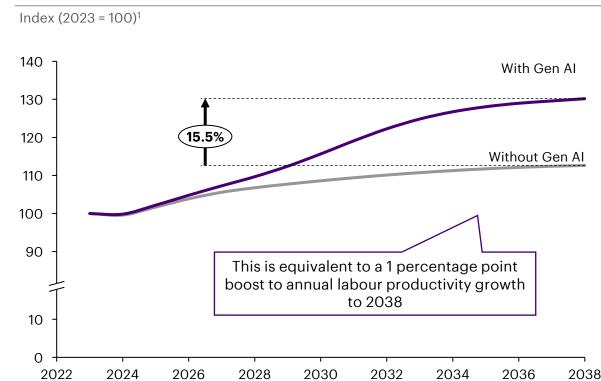
# Generative AI is expected to give the average worker 275 additional hours per year to dedicate to high-value tasks, improving productivity 15.5% by 2038

#### Time unlocked for workers to reallocate to high-value tasks every year

Average hours unlocked per worker per year by 20381



#### **Economy-wide labour productivity improvement**

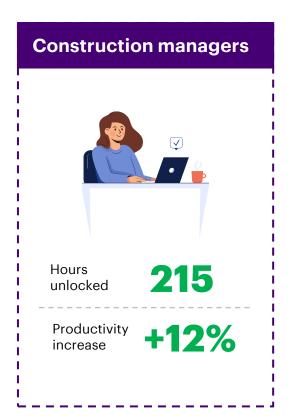


Generative Al is projected to raise worker productivity by 15.5% by 2038 by freeing workers to reinvest their time into high-value tasks, a significant uplift in the context of labour productivity growth of only 0.2% over the last decade.<sup>2</sup> Ultimately, this could translate into higher wages, greater business value, and better, more efficient products and services for New Zealanders.

# Generative AI will enable workers in critical sectors of New Zealand's economy to spend more time on their most important tasks

Our modelling shows that a significant amount of time each year will be unlocked for workers in critical industries to reinvest in the highest value aspects of their roles

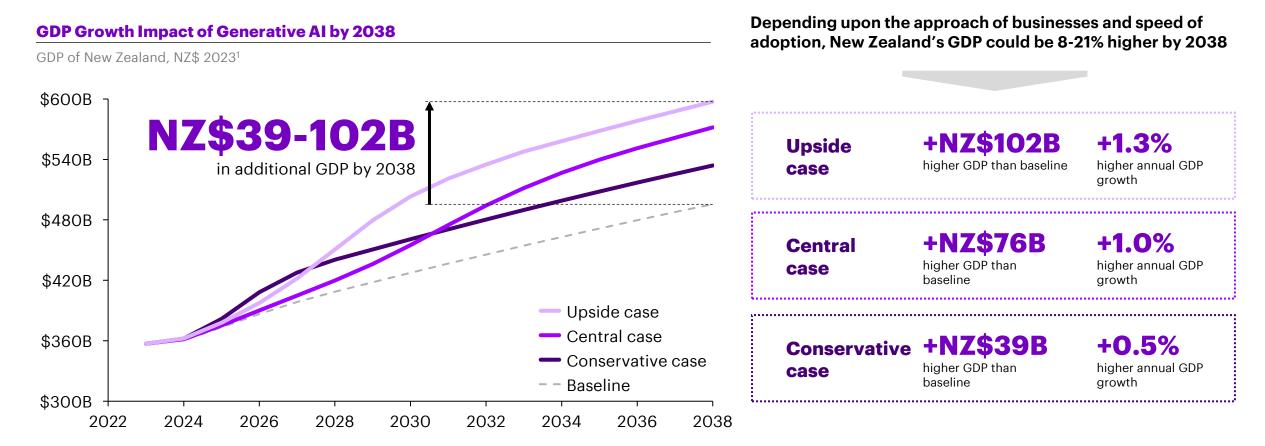








# Productivity improvements from Generative AI are estimated to add between NZ\$39-102B in annual value to the New Zealand economy by 2038



Productivity and GDP growth, which are projected to be 0.9% and 2.2% respectively on an average annual basis, could instead reach 1.4-2.2% and 2.7-3.5%. New Zealand's relative degree of success will depend on how fast it adopts Generative AI and how well it supports its workforce to transition to using it.

The pathway to achieving the opportunity

### New Zealand has competitive advantages in Generative AI across three key areas: openness to trade, potential for innovation, and network infrastructure

**New Zealand's competitive advantages in Generative AI** 

**Openness to** trade

03: ENABLING SUCCESS IN GENERATIVE AI



New Zealand is an open, export driven economy underpinned by high performing industries such as agriculture and tourism with a strong record of success in key global markets.

**Potential for** innovation



**Workers in New Zealand have rapidly adopted Generative AI** with 84% of knowledge workers already using it at work. New Zealand is also a responsible global citizen well positioned to provide global thought leadership on AI policy debates. Finally, New Zealand is an ideal global test-bed for emerging Generative Al use-cases.<sup>2</sup>

Well-developed network infrastructure



**New Zealand's domestic network infrastructure is highly developed**, with a significant quantity of spare capacity and good access to global subsea cable infrastructure.<sup>2</sup>

# Organisations in New Zealand have an opportunity to increase their digital maturity and clarify their plans to implement Generative AI

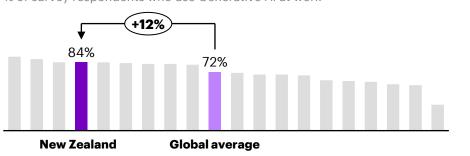
84% of knowledge workers in New Zealand say they are already using Generative AI at work, the third highest in the world...

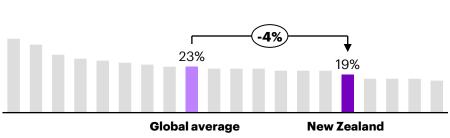
% of survey respondents who use Generative AI at work<sup>2,3</sup>

% of survey respondents who use Generative AI at work<sup>2,3</sup>

% of survey respondents who use Generative AI tools provided by their employer<sup>2,3</sup>

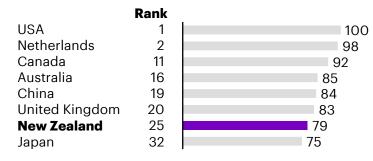
% of survey respondents who use Generative AI tools provided by their employer<sup>2,3</sup>





New Zealand performs relatively well on global measures of digital maturity but lags most advanced economies, which may slow adoption of Gen Al...

Score, IMD Digital Competitiveness Index<sup>2</sup>





...Corporate leaders in New Zealand believe Gen AI is a priority but feel less prepared to implement it than their global peers

% of survey respondents who agree they are concerned their organisation lacks a plan to implement Generative AI<sup>3</sup>



# Focussing on six key pillars will be critical for New Zealand to fully realise the benefits of Generative AI

#### **Enablers of Generative AI adoption in New Zealand**

### Access to infrastructure

- Continue to maintain highspeed network infrastructure to connect users to Al service providers
- Access to local supercomputing capacity to deliver secure, low-latency access to advanced, resource intensive models
- Access to hyperscale data centres onshore to enable fast, secure, and legally compliant transmission and storage of massive datasets

### Skilled workforces

- C-Suite knowledge of Gen AI and how it can be deployed
- Workforce digital literacy and skills that enable workers to make use of Gen Al applications
- Managing training and workforce transition to allow workers to reskill towards high-value tasks when lowlevel tasks are automated

### **Enterprise** readiness

- Clarifying strategies to drive whole-of-enterprise reinvention and redefine the performance frontier
- Creating an Alenabled digital core that seamlessly integrates Al and enables new capabilities
- Willingness to take risks to develop proven use cases to that deliver real value beyond technological novelty

## Collaborative ecosystem

- Cross-sector engagement among domestic stakeholder groups to share knowledge and surface opportunities and risks
- Inclusion of Māori perspectives to promote culturally relevant and ethical Al use
- International collaboration to enhance knowledge transfer and align with global best practice

## Clear policy framework

- Global regulatory interoperability to avoid erecting barriers to international investment and cooperation
- Regulatory certainty to enable investors, enterprises, and users to commit to Al in NZ
- Balancing safeguards and support for innovation to contain risks while incentivising adoption

## Public trust and license to operate

- Transparency and accountability around how models function and how they are used for decision making
- Safeguarding privacy and data security to ensure users feel safe when using AI
- Ensuring equitable access to Generative AI to ensure its benefits are fairly distributed across all communities



