



We all participate in the economy every day: we contribute when we go to work to earn money, and we contribute when we spend money. Jobs are the way most people earn an income. They allow us to provide for ourselves and for family members who may not be able to work themselves. Governments do different things to create jobs, and to help Kiwis find them. In this activity we'll explore the different ways government can support employment.

→ Go to [policy.nz/2023/party-vote/policies/incomes-and-employment](https://policy.nz/2023/party-vote/policies/incomes-and-employment)

→ Find and read the 'Jobs and employment' section

→ Explore answers to these questions and share your ideas and reasoning with others

1. People can work in the private sector (like businesses) or the public sector (like teachers, nurses, and government officials). Some people believe the government should not interfere with the private sector job market. Others believe that creating, supporting and finding jobs in the public and private sector is one of the most roles a government has. What do you think?

2. The "unemployment rate" measures the number of Kiwis of working age who don't have a job. Have a look at the Statistics New Zealand data on unemployment in Aotearoa New Zealand [here](#) and answer the following questions:

- What happened to the unemployment rate between June 2008 and June 2009? Why do you think this happened? How did the Global Financial Crisis impact New Zealand?
- Is there a difference in unemployment rates between men and women? Why do you think this might be? Consider the different roles that men and women have traditionally held in many families. Do you think this gap will change in the future? Why or why not?

→ Go back to Policy.nz and browse the policies. Click on policies to read more detail

→ Save the policies you agree with by clicking the heart icon

3. For one of the policies you have chosen, think about its effects on these people:

- A Kiwi who owns a small business and is struggling to pay the bills because of Covid-19.
- A 22-year-old Kiwi who has just graduated from university and is looking for their first job.
- A young Kiwi who wants to go into the trades (such as plumbing, hairdressing, or building).
- A large international company employing 100 highly-skilled Kiwis.

4. Imagine you are the Prime Minister. What three policies would you implement first to support jobs and employment? Why did you choose those policies?