



Job Title	Economist
Reports to	Chief Economist
Band	16
Location	Wellington
Last reviewed	May 2025
Delegations	None

About the Ministry

The Ministry for Regulation (the Ministry) is a small government agency with a big job to do. The Ministry works to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of regulation and regulatory systems for New Zealanders by:

- Ensuring the quality of new regulation
- Improving the functioning of existing regulatory systems
- Raising capability of those who design and operate regulatory systems
- Providing continuous and enduring improvement of the regulatory management system.

Our values



We make a difference
Ka whakaaweawe tātou



We empower
Ka whakamana tātou



We are courageous
Ka whakamanawanui tātou



We put people at the centre
Ka manaaki tātou

About the team

The Policy business group serves as an integrated, professional, and thought-leading advisory group to the government. They are responsible for oversight and stewardship of the regulatory management system. This includes key advice on maintaining and enhancing the statutory and regulatory frameworks that govern the system (including expert economic advice), oversight of Regulatory Impact Analysis and quality assurance and expert advice on new regulatory proposals.



About the role

The Economist is responsible for delivering high-quality economic analysis and advice that supports the Ministry's core operations. They will:

- Analyse quantitative and qualitative data to shed light on the quality and effects of regulation
- Critically read and review academic and policy research and combine it with various analysis to form opinions about areas with regulatory issues
- Bring economic theory to the analysis of industries, markets, and regulatory systems
- Collaborate with internal teams and external partners to evaluate policy
- Contribute to the Ministry's long-term strategy.

The role may require the ability to obtain a NZ Government National Security Clearance.

About you

- Post-graduate degree in Economics
- A broad base of economic knowledge, with the ability to apply economic principles and insights across a wide range of regulatory domains, and the willingness to proactively contribute across the Ministry's functions
- Ability to critically evaluate economic literature and quantitative evidence, especially relating to policy design and the impact of economics, law, and regulation on productivity, competition, and economic growth
- Ability to analyse complex data and a sound understanding of the practice of conducting microeconomic research
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with a proven ability to clearly and persuasively convey complex economic concepts and findings to non-economists, including policy professionals, lawyers, stakeholders, and leadership
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills with a keen attention to detail
- Ability to manage and coordinate a high volume of work in a dynamic environment
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.



Key Accountabilities

Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver high quality analysis that enables our teams to make informed decisions• Contribute to detailed reports and presentations that clearly communicate findings and recommendations to both technical and non-technical audiences• Stay updated on new policy areas to ensure robust economic analysis is available to decision-makers• Develop good understanding of the machinery of government, to ensure that all analysis and advice is informed by the government context• Stay current with economic trends, legislation and market developments to provide timely and relevant insights• Assist in fostering economic thinking within the Ministry• Proactively offer advice, support, and guidance to colleagues, ensuring that findings and recommendations are presented clearly and precisely• Contribute to the long-term strategy by providing high quality regulatory economic analysis to the Ministry and Minister, ensuring that the work is consistently guided by thorough and rigorous economic insights.
Relationship Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foster and maintain positive relationships with key external organisations and contacts• Serve as an effective role model for connecting, collaborating, and sharing knowledge, while fostering trusted and productive working relationships across the Ministry.
Risk management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work on a “no surprises” basis and ensure your manager is kept well informed of progress, issues and risks.

The duties and responsibilities in this document are not exhaustive. The incumbent may be required to perform other work which is consistent with the nature of the role.

Key relationships

Internal

- Members of the Senior Leadership team
- Managers and kaimahi across the Ministry



External

- Government Ministers and their staff
- Other Central Agencies
- Senior executives and kaimahi in other government departments
- Key stakeholders/industry groups
- Regulatory organisations across the public sector

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

The Ministry for Regulation is committed to providing a healthy and safe work environment and safe management practices for all employees. Employees are expected to share this commitment as outlined in the Health and Safety at Work Act by taking all practicable steps to ensure their safety at work and that no action or inaction, causes harm to others while at work.

Changes to Position Description

Positions in the Ministry may change over time as the organisation evolves and priorities change. Job descriptions may be updated accordingly to reflect those changes in consultation with you.