
Table 1 Timeline of major economic events - PEOPLE

Year	Event
1300	Arrival of Māori
1814	Arrival of Reverend Samuel Marsden
1861	Gold discovered at Gabriel's Gully, Otago
1877	Education Act provides for free secular compulsory education
1878	Trade Union Act gives legal recognition to trade unions
1891	Liberal government formed
1894	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act
1914–18	First world war
1918	Influenza epidemic
1926	Family allowances introduced
1938	Social Security Act
1939–45	Second world war
1951	Waterfront dispute
1991	Expenditure reductions in National's 'mother of all budgets' – including the increase in the retirement age to 65 and benefit cuts
1998	Drought; Asian crisis
2000	Employment Relations Act
2001	US-led global slowdown; Kiwi migrants to Australia need permanent entry status to qualify for welfare benefits
2008-9	Global Financial Crisis
2011	Canterbury earthquakes; Rugby World Cup