Evaluating New Zealand’s trade

Understanding the participation of women in trade using New Zealand’s firm-level and administrative data sources

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Introduction

- Why are we Evaluating New Zealand’s Trade?
  - Taking a wider view of the impacts of trade, consistent with the Government’s wellbeing approach
  - Building the analytical base for the Trade for All agenda

- Our evaluation approach is anchored around the Productive, Sustainable and Inclusive Trade Channels Framework that we have developed.

- Within this broader framework, we adopt the OECD Trade and Gender framework for gender analysis. This focuses on the different impacts that trade can have on women as employees, women as employers, and women as consumers.

- The distribution of New Zealand’s trading firms and their employees and owners is not well understood. We are using the Stats NZ Longitudinal Business Database (LBD) and Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) to increase our understanding of the current distribution of trading firms.
LBD Methodology and key caveats

Customs Trade Data
Business Registry
Corporate tax data
Business Survey Data

Firm level characteristics
- Firm size
- Industry
- Productivity
- Export $ (by product and destination)

Longitudinal Business Database (LBD)

Individual / employee characteristics
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Region / location
- Pay

Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI)

Monthly Payroll Data
Individual tax data
Census data
Other admin data
The distribution of goods exporting firms

Stats NZ LBD/IDI disclaimer

- Access to the data used in this study was provided by Stats NZ under conditions designed to give effect to the security and confidentiality provisions of the Statistics Act 1975. The results presented in this study are the work of the author, not Stats NZ or individual data suppliers.
- These results are not official statistics. They have been created for research purposes from the [Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) and/or Longitudinal Business Database (LBD)] which [is/are] carefully managed by Stats NZ. For more information about the [IDI and/or LBD] please visit https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/.
- The results are based in part on tax data supplied by Inland Revenue to Stats NZ under the Tax Administration Act 1994 for statistical purposes. Any discussion of data limitations or weaknesses is in the context of using the IDI for statistical purposes, and is not related to the data’s ability to support Inland Revenue’s core operational requirements.
- All output is based on a 2018 cross-sectional point in time.
Women employees are underrepresented in New Zealand’s goods exporting firms...

Employment by Gender and Exporter Status

- **Female Non Exporter**: 1,013,307 (40%)
- **Female Indirect Exporter**: 46,515 (2%)
- **Female Direct Exporter**: 191,940 (7%)
- **Male Non Exporter**: 909,234 (36%)
- **Male Indirect Exporter**: 91,848 (4%)
- **Male Direct Exporter**: 267,636 (11%)
...in part due to the large primary sector share of New Zealand goods exports.
Median wages are higher in exporting firms than their non-exporter peers...

Direct and Indirect Export Employment by Industry

- Export Employment Male
- Export Employment Female
- Export Pay Gap (RHS)
...but there appear to be large gender pay gaps

Direct and Indirect Export Employment by Industry

Export Employment Male
Export Employment Female
Gross Gender Pay Gap (RHS)
Women employees are more likely to work for larger goods export firms than men.
Based on a very narrow ownership definition (working proprietors), women-owned exporters operate in similar numbers to men-owned businesses.

**Exporting Working Proprietors - Firm Count, Employment and Exports**

- Female Working Proprietor: 1,998 firms, 31,746 employees, $825 million in exports.
- Split Ownership: 930 firms, 12,372 employees, $456 million in exports.
Next steps for this work

- Improve ownership / leadership coverage (working proprietors ~4% of export value)
  - For women- and indigenous-owned businesses
  - Develop measures (or proxies) for women- and indigenous-led businesses

- Extend coverage to services
  - Currently only goods trade
  - May be able to partially extend to services trade using survey data

- Extend analysis to women and Māori (indigenous)

- Inputs into review and policy processes
  - CPTPP Three Year review
  - OECD Trade and Gender country review
  - APEC
  - ITAG and GTAGA
  - Negotiations