

Technological change and the future of work

NEW ZEALAND
PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION
Te Kōmihana Whai Hua o Aotearoa



Issues paper – April 2019

Our brief

This inquiry investigates the impact of technological change on the future of work. It aims to answer three big questions:

- What are the likely impacts of technological change on work?
- What does this mean for workers, productivity and wellbeing?
- How can the Government best position New Zealand to respond?



Four future scenarios

Scenario 1: More tech & more jobs



Technology adoption accelerates in a way that creates at least as many jobs as it destroys

Scenario 2: More tech & fewer jobs



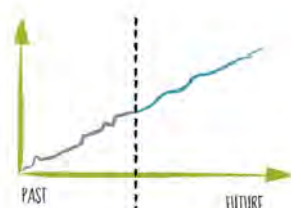
Technology adoption accelerates and its overall effect is to replace labour

Scenario 3: Stagnation



Technology adoption slows, with less job churn and less change in the nature of work

Scenario 4: Steady as



Technology adoption and its impact on work continues at a pace similar to the last two decades

We want your input

- Q Are these scenarios useful for considering the future effects of technological change?
- Q How could they be improved?

What changes would be needed to New Zealand's policy settings?

- Q What changes would be required to New Zealand's labour market policy settings under each scenario?
- Q What changes would be required to New Zealand's education and training system under each scenario?
- Q How might New Zealand chart its own future course through the development and use of technology?

We welcome submissions

Our issues paper aims to assist you to participate in this inquiry. It includes a full list of questions. Please make a submission to have your say.

www.productivity.govt.nz/futureofwork