

NZ CEOs confident about supply chains

August 2020



KPMG’s latest global CEO Outlook pulse-check shows New Zealand CEOs are much more confident about risk in their supply chains than their Australian or global peers.

The detailed results of this pulse-check indicate that by mid-year, New Zealand CEOs had taken actions which justify this confidence. Two thirds of New Zealand CEOs said that the global pandemic has caused them to rethink their global supply chain approach. Whilst their Australian and global peers then rated it as one of their highest risks, it didn’t make the top 10 for New Zealand CEOs in KPMG’s July 2020 survey.

By July, the most significant period of domestic operational disruption caused by the Covid-19 lockdown in New Zealand was over. The most substantial supply chain issues were either resolved or being managed, and other risks had risen to the forefront of the New Zealand business landscape. The supply chain agenda may have slipped back into ‘business as usual’ mode as CEOs grappled with their next challenge.

Zespri CEO Dan Mathieson says, “As a primary industry a long way from our customers, we’ve become more resilient by improving our systems and processes, being flexible enough to adapt and respond and taking control of our supply chain – from growers

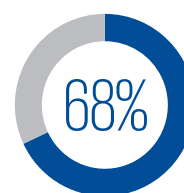
through post-harvest, Zespri and our customers around the world. Covid-19 has presented another challenge but we’re really pleased with how the industry has responded. What’s given us confidence is the collaborative nature of our industry and the fact that we understand the importance of working together to ensure our fruit is reaching our customers and consumers around the world.”

Notwithstanding the early and strong New Zealand response, KPMG believes the high-risk rating put on supply chain risk by Australian and global CEOs reflects the growth in nationalism, threats to global trade, and strong negative economic outlooks that remain in our key export markets. Supply chain management won’t be getting easier any time soon.



We’ve become resilient through a commitment to addressing challenges together, improving our systems and processes and ensuring we’re flexible enough to adapt and respond. We’ve also ensured we’re in control of our supply chain, from growers through post-harvest, Zespri and our customers around the world to build resilience together. ”

Daniel Mathieson
CEO, Zespri



68% of New Zealand CEOs have had to re-think their supply chain approach as a result of the global pandemic.

Ranking of
supply chain
as great threat
to growth:

Global:	#2
Australia:	#2
New Zealand:	#11 equal (last)

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