

Achieving financial security and economic participation



Older people make a significant economic contribution

It is projected that by 2036, those aged 65+ will contribute annually (in 2016 dollars):



\$50 billion
of consumer spending



\$25 billion
worth of unpaid or voluntary work



\$13 billion
total taxes (including GST)

34%

of the labour force (including self-employed) are 50+

51%

of those who are self-employed are 50+



1 in 4 people
aged 65+ are employed or self-employed

Some older people are struggling financially

17,000 people aged 65+ were in material hardship in 2018 (2.5% of the age group)

Most rent or have a mortgage and have little or no income other than NZ Super

63% of renters

aged 51-64 faced financial difficulties in April 2020 (during lockdown), compared with **37% of home-owners with a mortgage** and **13% of mortgage-free home owners**

25% of unemployed people

50+ years old have been unemployed **for more than 1 year** (considered long-term unemployed)

On average most of a person's retirement savings are made after they turn 50

Women tend to have lower levels of wealth than men

Pacific people aged 50-64 have significantly lower levels of wealth than other ethnic groups

The disproportionate impact of job loss can jeopardise this

Older workers 50+ who are displaced experience:

IN THE FIRST YEAR

30%
lower employment

35%
lower earnings if employed again

AFTER 5 YEARS

11%
lower employment

25%
lower earnings if employed again