



Kānoa
Regional Economic Development
& Investment Unit

North Island Weather Events Primary Producer Finance Scheme (NIWE PPFS) 2025 Annual Survey Report

December 2025

Summary

NIWE PPFS loans were very-to-extremely important to producers' recovery from the 2023 weather events

Thirty-one businesses received NIWE PPFS loans to help them recover from the 2023 North Island weather events. Twenty-eight had a green risk status, but two were in liquidation proceedings. Results of the 2025 annual survey show that, for the 22 respondents to the survey, all found their loans 'extremely important' or 'very important' to their recovery from the weather events.

It was just as important to financial stability and helped most re-engage with lenders

The survey results also show that for all 22 respondents, NIWE PPFS support has been 'extremely important' or 'very important' to their businesses' financial stability, and has been 'very' to 'extremely effective' in enabling well over half of respondents' businesses to re-engage with commercial lenders, a central purpose of the fund.

Average operating levels and viability increased on the previous year



From 2024 to 2025, the average operating level of the businesses supported also increased, from 54 percent to 70 percent of pre-weather event levels, and average business viability levels increased a little to 77 percent.

Recipients are more resilient to similar weather events and employment levels increased on the previous year

As in 2024, most respondents' businesses in 2025 were 'more' to 'much more resilient' to weather events of a similar magnitude to 2023's, and average employment levels increased from 80 percent to 88 percent of pre-weather event levels.

The fund was highly praised by virtually all respondents

Lastly, there was high praise of the fund from almost all respondents in the final question asking if there were other comments, twice that of last year, and no criticism when previously there had been mixed reviews on the application process (the fund closed for applications on 30 June 2024).

NORTH ISLAND WEATHER EVENTS PRIMARY PRODUCER FINANCE SCHEME	
<i>To support severely-affected businesses return to a point where they can re-engage with commercial lenders.</i>	
	Total Fund: \$142.9m
	Approved: \$141.9m
	Contracted: \$140.0m
	Paid: \$112.8m
	31 Approved Projects
	1 Completed Projects

Survey info – 9 questions, short completion time, similar response rate

NIWE-PPFS 2025 Survey

Survey launched 08 JULY 2025

Data download 17 OCTOBER 2025

Total invitations 31

Total responses 22

Response rate 71%

Margin of error 11pp +/- at the 95% confidence level

Notes

- Two recipient organisations were in liquidation, so weren't expected to complete.
- One recipient organisation wasn't included for a technical reason (rep represented two organisations).
- Nine questions including one to identify organisation and one open-ended for final comment.
- Questions are the same as in 2024, except two on application process are no longer asked.
- Average completion time 3-4 minutes.

Organisations responding

Q1

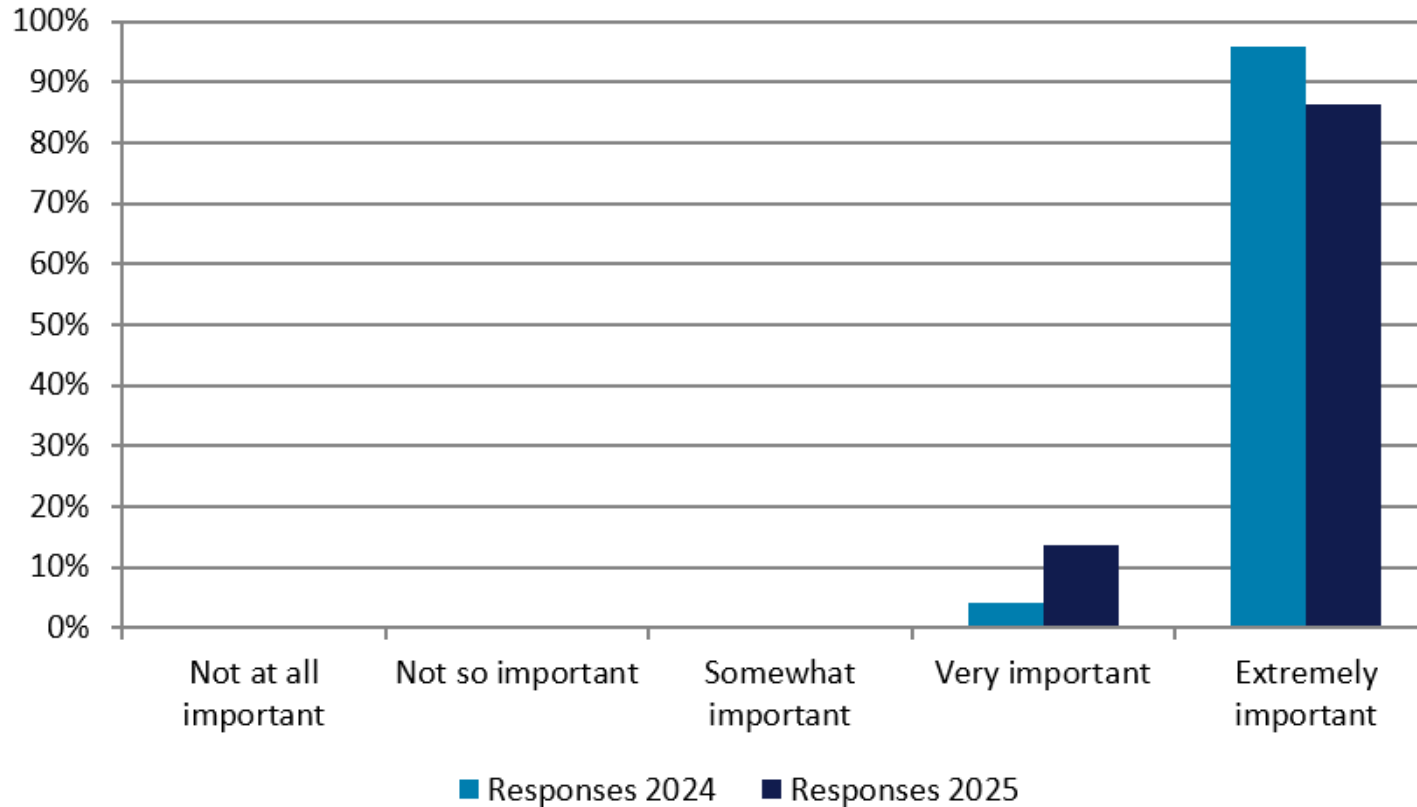
Please state the organisation you represent:

Twenty-two organisations responded this year (out of 31), three of those hadn't responded in 2024. Six organisations responded in 2024 but didn't respond in 2025. Two organisations are insolvent or in insolvency proceedings, and that should be taken into consideration when interpreting the following results. In total, taking both surveys into account, 28 of 31 organisations (90%) had responded to at least one survey.

The importance of the fund to recovery from the 2023 North Island weather events was similar to last year, with nearly all respondents finding it **extremely important**, and no one finding it less than very important.

Overall - How important, to date, has NIWE PPFS funding been for your business recovering from the 2023 North Island weather events?

Q2

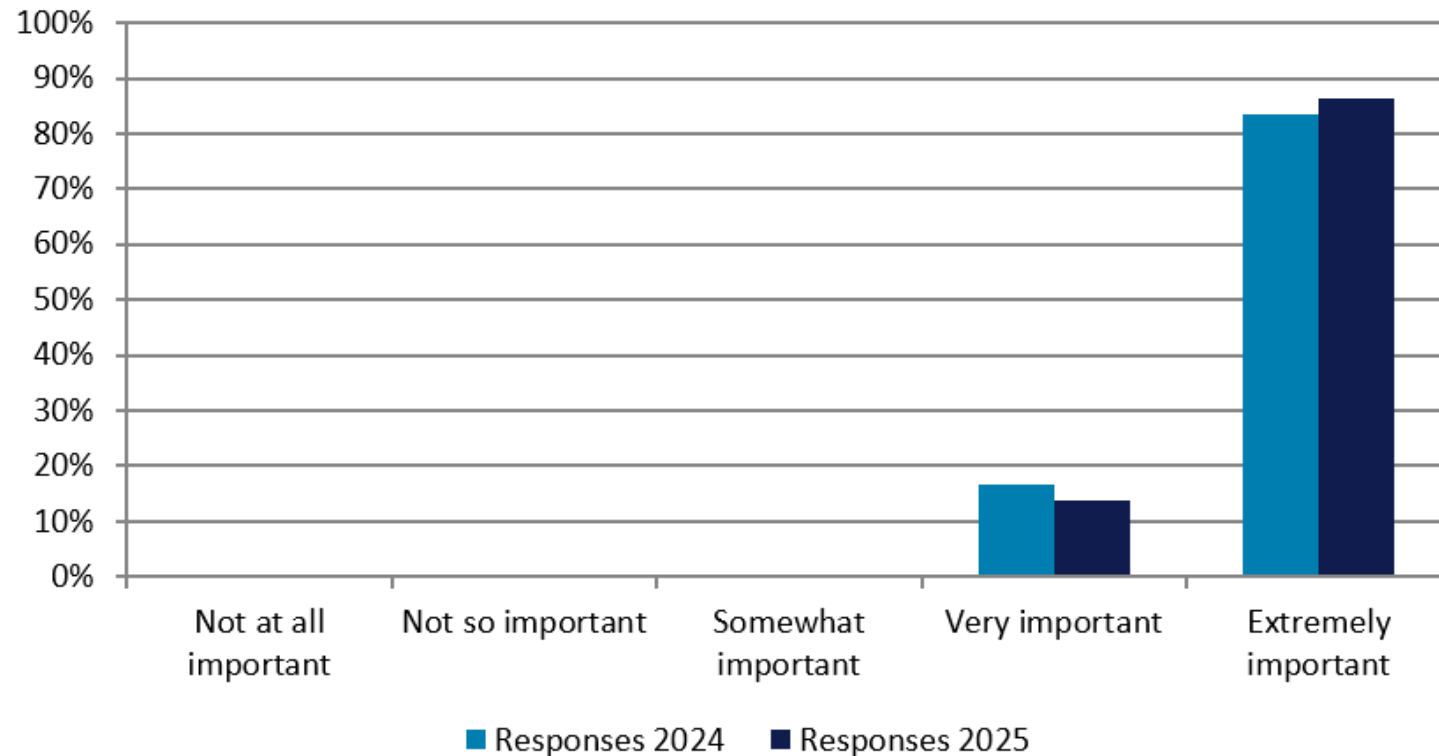


Answered - 22
Skipped - 0

The fund was *extremely important to financial stability* after the 2023 weather events, no one found it less than very important.

Financial stability 1:2 - How important, to date, has NIWE PPFS funding been for your business's financial stability after the 2023 weather events?

Q3 2025
Q5 2024

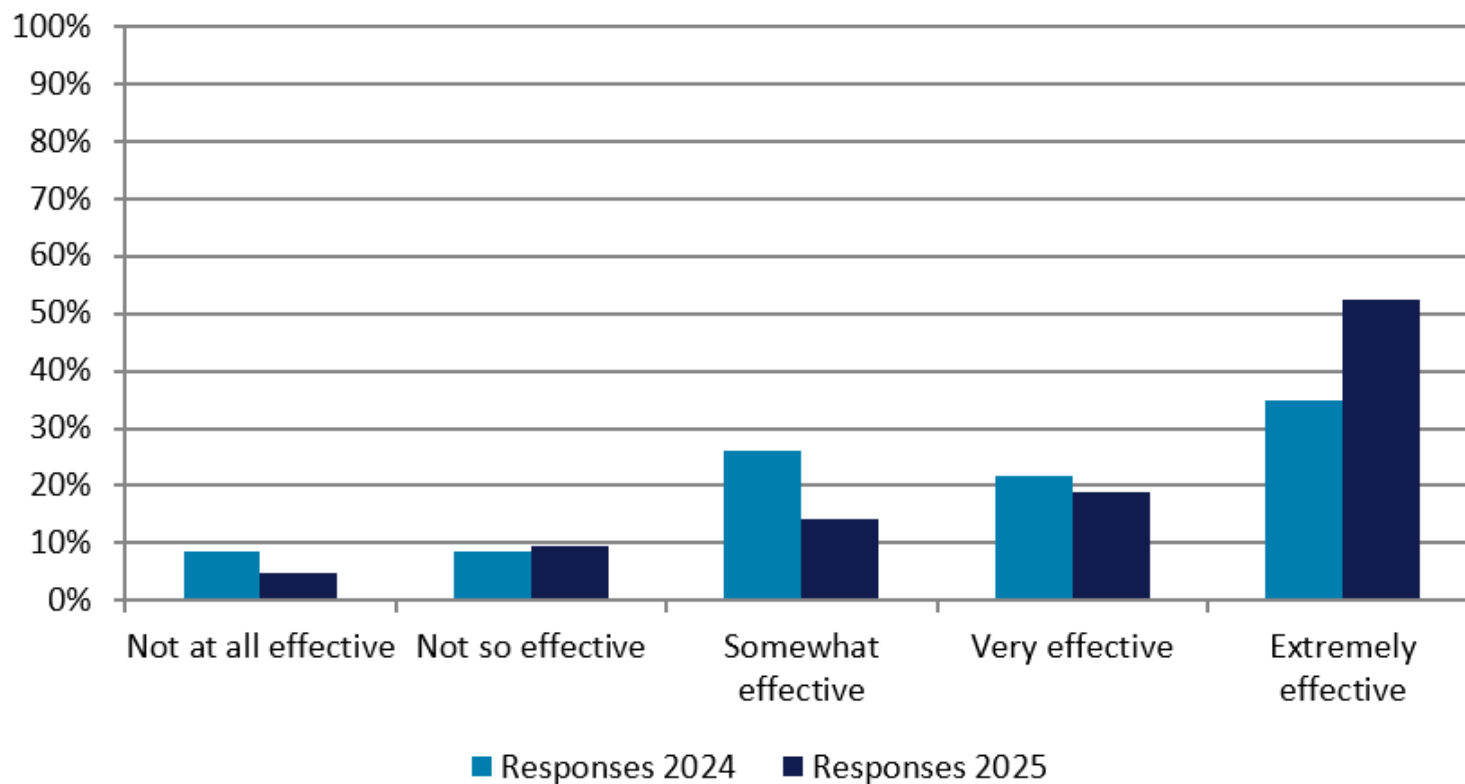


Answered - 22
Skipped - 0

Effectiveness for *engaging with commercial lenders increased on the extremely effective front* to over half of respondents. Some of that may be due to change in the composition of survey respondents.

Financial stability 2:2 - How effective, to date, has NIWE-PPFS funding been for enabling your business to engage or re-engage with commercial lenders?

Q4 2025
Q6 2024

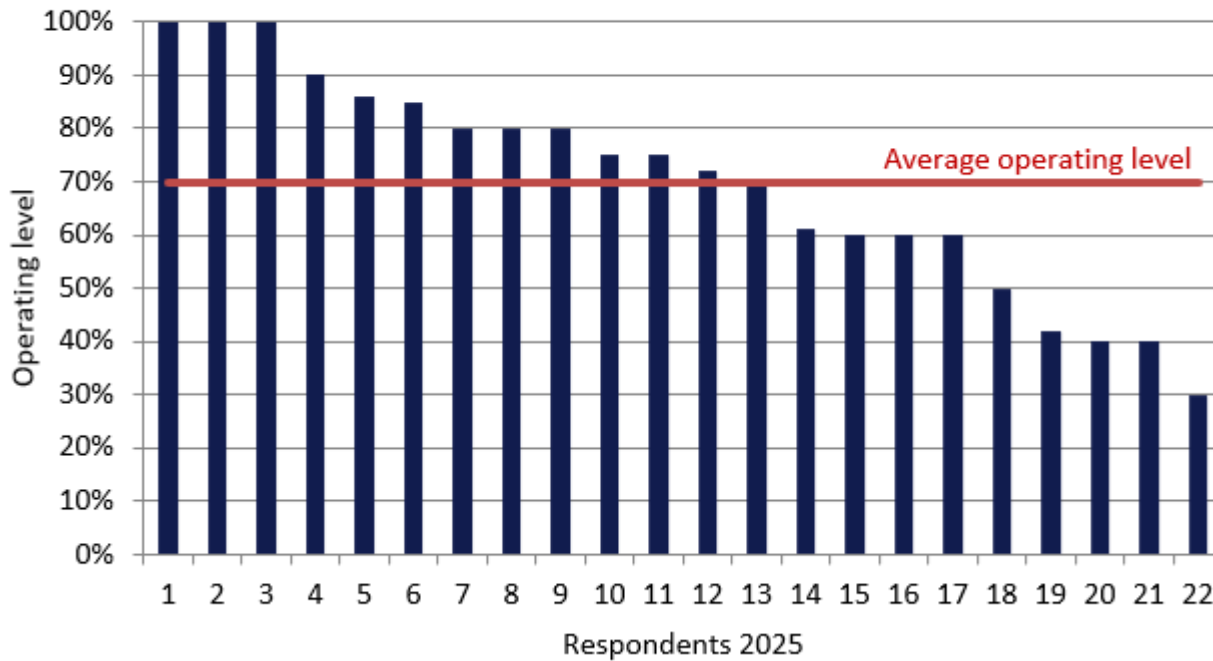


Answered - 20
Skipped - 0

Average *operating levels have increased* from 54% to 70% of before weather event levels. More respondents are operating at 100% and none at zero. Some of this may represent change of survey composition, however, a substantive part will be meaningfully higher as the upward effect is widespread.

2025 survey results

Operating level - At what level is your business operating now compared to before the 2023 weather events?

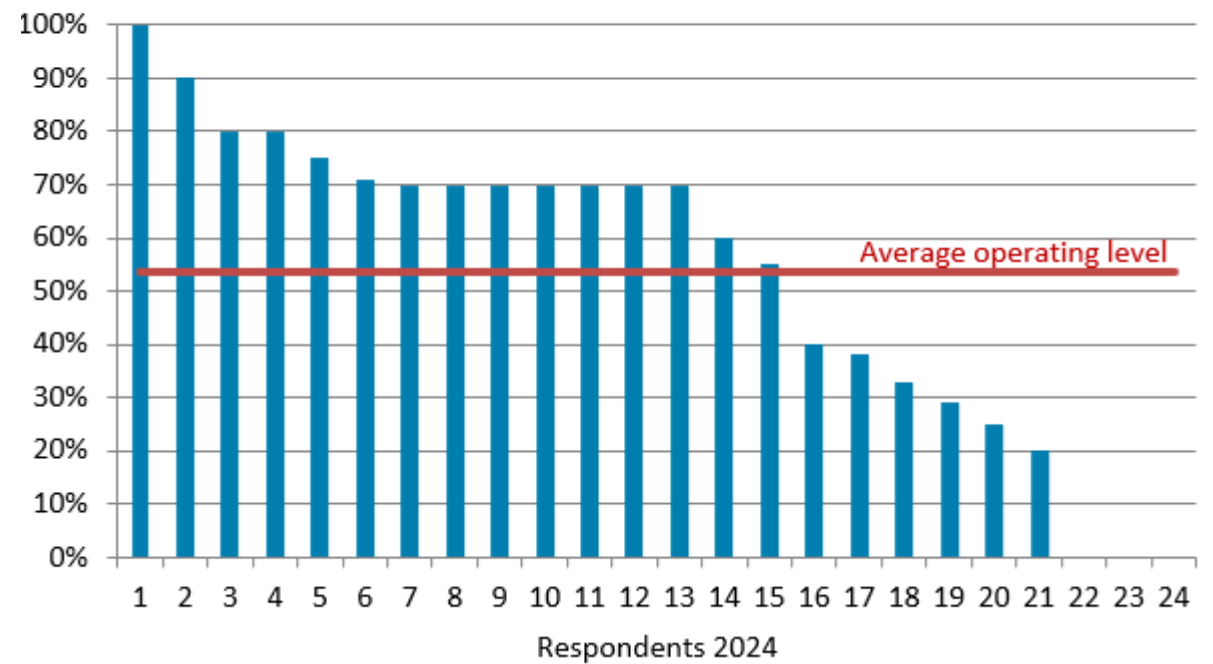


Q5 2025
Q7 2024

Answered - 22
Skipped - 0

2024 survey results

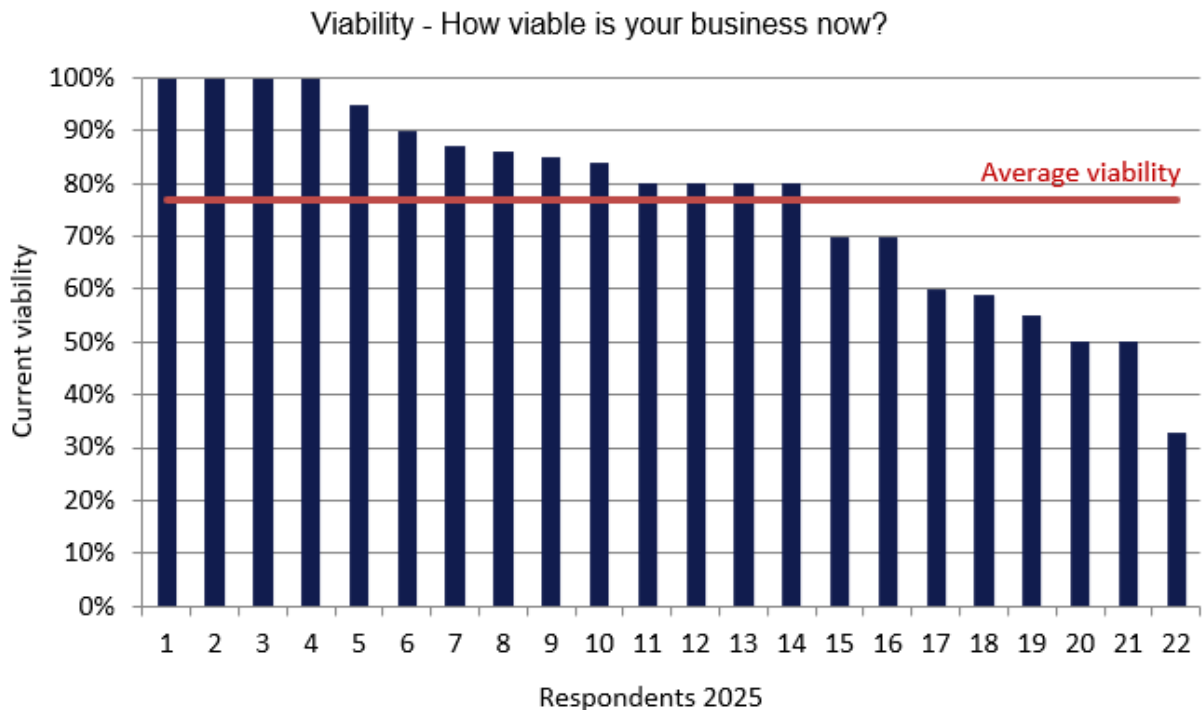
Operating level - At what level is your business operating now compared to before the 2023 weather events?



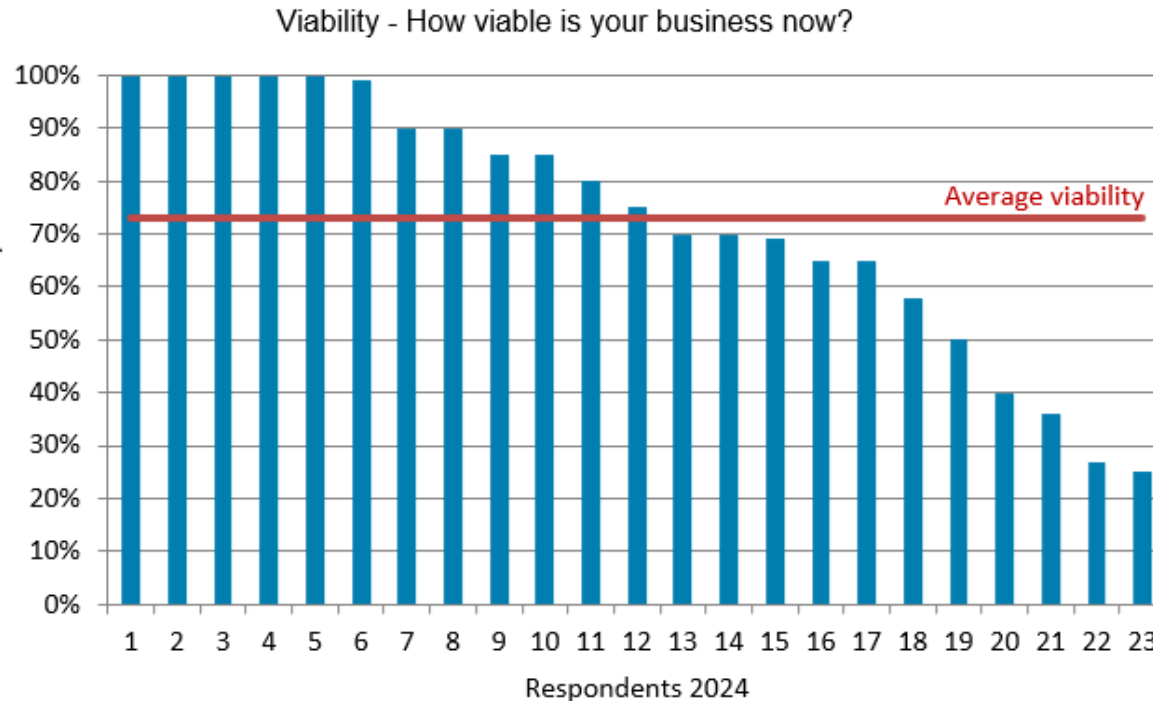
Answered - 24
Skipped - 0

Average *current viability* has increased a little, from 73% to 77%, and the range is narrower, so there are less businesses below 50% viability.

2025 survey results



2024 survey results



Q6 2024
Q8 2025

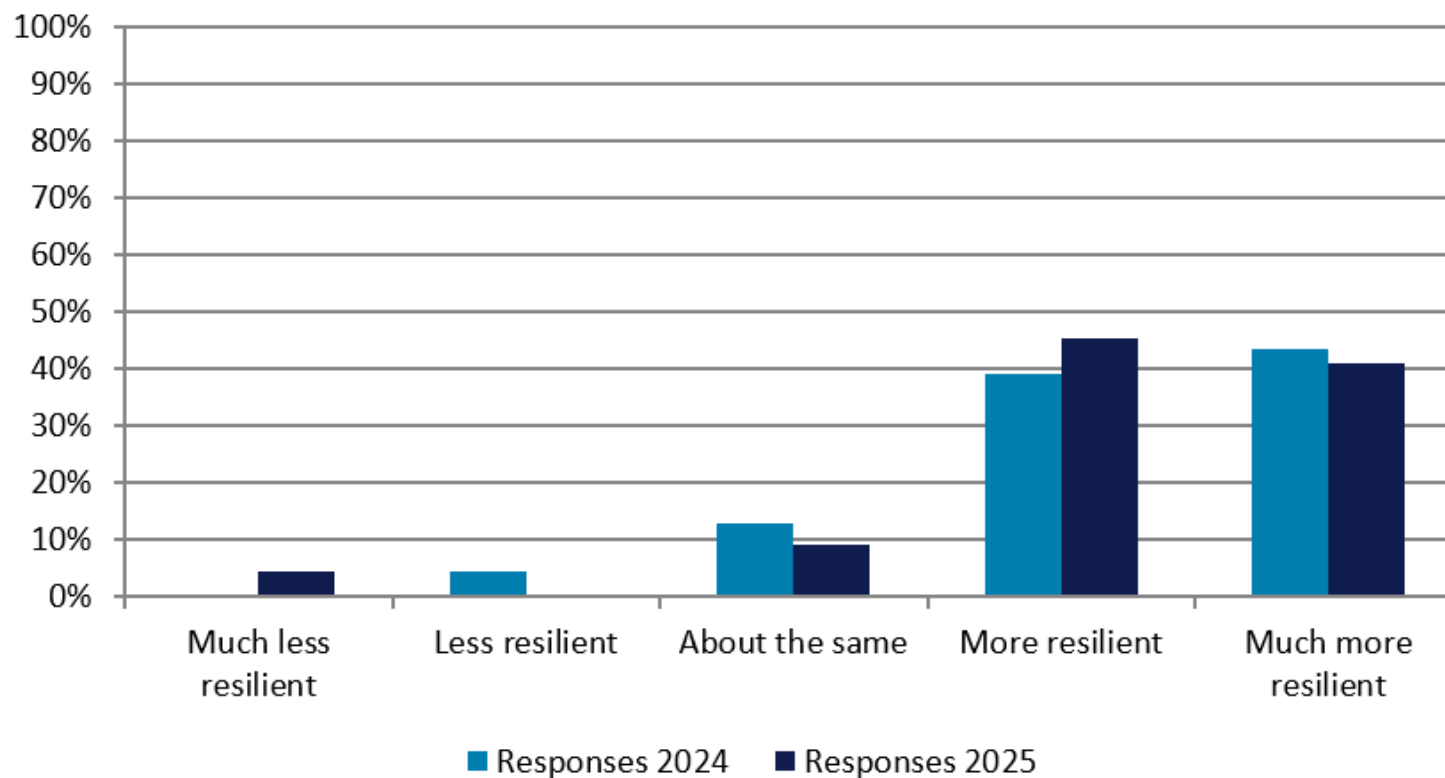
Answered - 22
Skipped - 0

Answered - 23
Skipped - 1

As in 2024, most respondents are now *more or much more resilient* to weather events of a similar magnitude to the 2023 weather events.

Resilience - Compared to before the 2023 weather events, how resilient is your business now to weather events of a similar magnitude?

Q7 2025
Q9 2024

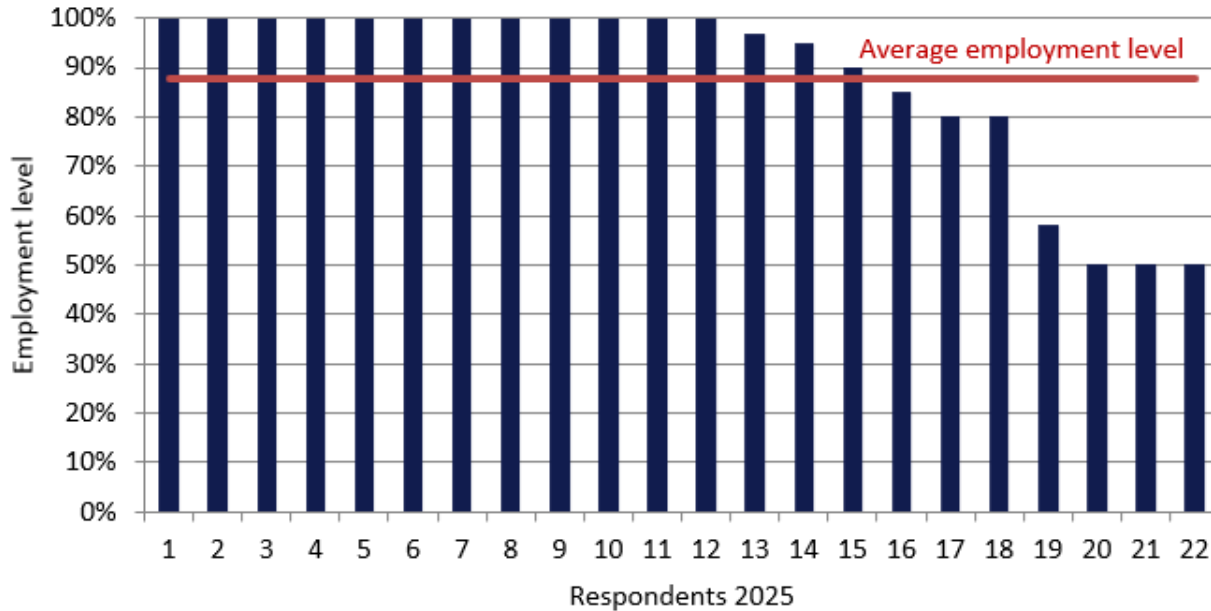


Answered - 22
Skipped - 0

Average *employment levels increased* to 88% of pre-weather event levels from 80% in 2024. More respondents are at 100% : 12 compared to 8 in 2024.

2025 survey results

Employment - What are your employment levels like now compared to before the 2023 weather events?

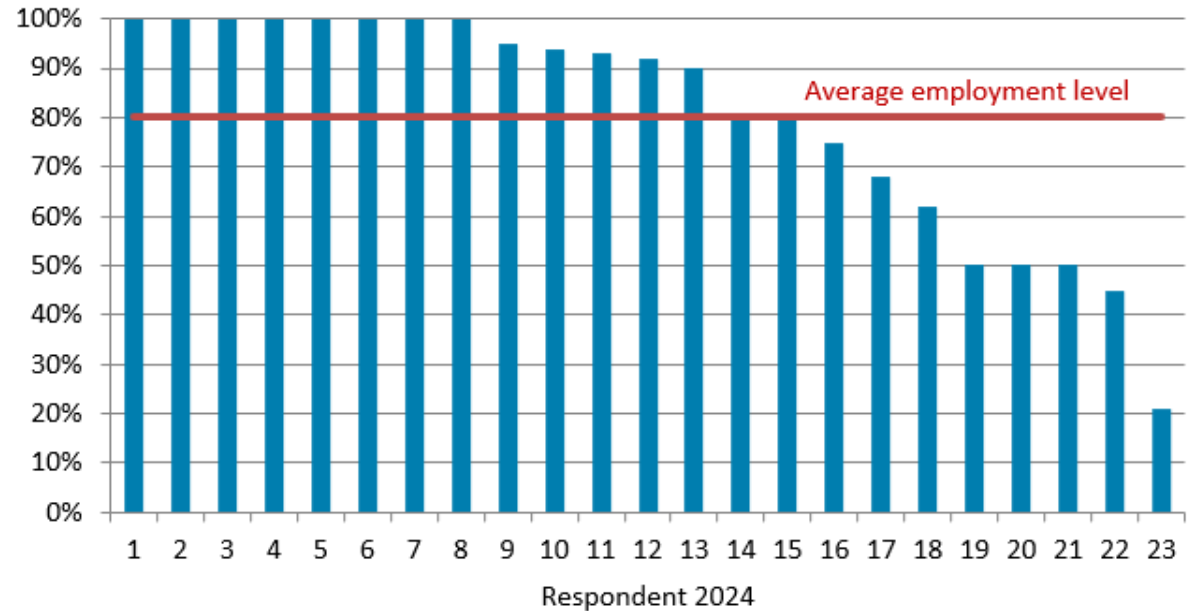


Q8 2024
Q10 2025

Answered - 22
Skipped - 0

2024 survey results

Employment - What are your employment levels like now compared to before the 2023 weather events?



Answered - 23
Skipped - 1

Strong praise of the fund from practically all respondents, twice that of last year – from 9 to 18 – and no criticism, whereas last year there were mixed reviews of the application process.

“Super helpful and grateful for the support and help that I’ve received, it has helped turn the business around.”

“Without the fund we wouldn't have been able to replant our orchard and we would have still a huge mess on our hands.”

“It's been a life-saver, thankyou.”

Q9 2025

“Timely intervention without which recovery would have been long and arduous if at all possible.”

Q11 2024

Answered - 19
Skipped - 3

“We couldn't have managed without it.
Thank you so much!”

“This has been life changing and our business would not have carried on if it were not for this funding.”

“Receiving financial assistance from the NIWE PPFS has enabled our business to recover faster financially, re-engage on reasonable terms with our financial lenders, retain employees, continue to purchase from our suppliers in our region and therefore support them to recover financially as well.”

“The funding has been extremely helpful and has allowed us to complete the remediation work required on all of our orchards. The MBIE team have been amazing to deal with, exceptionally pragmatic, helpful and understanding of our situation.”

“It has saved our business from certain closure, and put it on a pathway to succeeding.”

MR&E: Objectives

Primary Objective

12. The NIWE-PPFS primary objective is to: *“assist affected primary sector businesses to be able to re-engage with commercial lenders.”*

¹ Programme Mandate: <https://mako.wd.govt.nz/otcs/llisapi.dll/app/nodes/145162241>

Programme Objectives

13. The objectives of the NIWE-PPFS programme include:
 - Provide timely financial support to eligible primary producers impacted by the 2023 North Island weather events in the form of loans and equity investments.
 - Contribute to the recovery of the impacted primary sector by supporting eligible land producing businesses that have a reasonable likelihood of commercial viability.
 - Contribute to the recovery of economic activity and job creation in impacted rural communities, by supporting borrowers to be financially viable so they can recover, stabilise, and eventually grow.
 - Reduce environmental vulnerabilities in the primary sector and enhance the overall wellbeing of farming communities.

MR&E: Table 1. NIWE-PPFS Performance Measures

Dimension	Performance Measure	Target
Kānoa-RD implementation	All applications assessed against relevant NIWE-PPFS criteria and receive standard due diligence and financial due diligence.	100%
	Wave 1 reporting provided to Joint Ministers by 30 Sep 23.	30 Sep 23
Recipient Impacts	First Year. Recipient Impacts Report – Direct/Short Term Outcomes - Year 1 provided to Joint Ministers. Includes measure: ‘Recipient businesses have enhanced access to the necessary funding’ and ‘enhanced financial stability’.	NLT 30 Nov 24
	1-3 years. Recipient Impacts Report - Medium Term Outcomes - Year 3 provided to Joint Ministers. Includes measure: ‘Preservation of recipient business’ operations’ and ‘recipient businesses show enhanced viability and resilience.’	NLT 30 Nov 26
	3-5 years. Recipient Impacts Report - Year 5 provided to Joint Ministers. Includes measure: ‘Recipient businesses are displaying indicators of recovery’ and ‘Recipient businesses are contributing to recovery of the regional labour market.’	NLT 30 Nov 28

Note: NLT = No Later Than.

MR&E: Annex D. Recipient Impacts – Mapping and Methodology

Success Criteria/Performance Measures	What is being evaluated?	How Reported?	Data Points and Queries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recipient businesses have enhanced access to the necessary funding. Recipient businesses have enhanced financial stability. 	Direct / Short Term Outcomes (12months) Recipient Impacts	Recipient Impacts Report – Direct/Short Term Outcomes - Year 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How important has NIWE PPFS funding been for your business recovering from the 2023 North Island weather events? How easy did you find the process of applying for NIWE PPFS funding? (<i>Year 1 only</i>) How timely did you find the process from application to approval? (<i>Year 1 only</i>) How important has NIWE PPFS funding been for your business's financial stability after the 2023 weather events? How effective has NIWE-PPFS funding been for enabling your business to (re-)engage with commercial lenders? At what level is your business operating now compared to before the 2023 weather events? How viable is your business now? Compared to before the 2023 weather events, how resilient is your business now to weather events of a similar magnitude? What are your employment levels like now compared to before the 2023 weather events?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above 		Recipient Impacts Report – Direct/Short Term Outcomes - Year 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preservation of recipient business' operations. Recipient businesses show enhanced viability and resilience. Recipient businesses are contributing to recovery of the regional labour market. Job preservation and creation in impacted communities Stability in the region's primary sector. 	Medium Term Outcomes (1-3 years) Recipient Impacts	Recipient Impacts Report - Medium Term Outcomes - Year 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above 		Recipient Impacts Report - Medium Term Outcomes - Year 4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic resilience of supported primary producers and regions to future weather-related shocks. 	Long Term Outcomes (3-5 years) Regional Outcomes	Recipient Impacts Report – Year 5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above 	Contribution Towards Long Term Impacts (5+ years)	(If required) Recipient Impacts Report – Year 6	

Note: **Bold** text denotes reports that are required to be delivered to Joint Ministers, and which form part of Kānoa-RD's reporting obligation to Treasury. In addition, this information may also be shared wider with partner agencies.

MR&E: Enclosure 1. NIWE-PPFS Performance Measures

Dimension	Performance Measure	Target	Measurement methodology
Kānoa-RD implementation	All applications assessed against the relevant PPFS criteria	100% Achieved - reported very quarter during implementation phase	Validated by statement that all approved loans (actioned to date) meet the eligibility criteria
Kānoa-RD implementation	All applications receive standard due diligence and financial due diligence	100% Achieved - reported very quarter during implementation phase	Validated by statement that all approved loans (actioned to date) have passed due diligence
Kānoa-RD implementation	Wave 1 reporting provided to Joint Ministers by 30 September 2023	Achieved 14 Sept 2023	Assessed by date of report delivery to Joint Minister's
Recipient Impacts (First year)	Recipient Impacts Report – Direct/Short Term Outcomes - Year 1 provided to Joint Ministers	No later than 30 November 2024	Assessed by date of report delivery to Joint Minister's
Recipient Impacts (1-3 years)	Recipient Impacts Report - Medium Term Outcomes - Year 3 provided to Joint Ministers	No later than 30 November 2026	Assessed by date of report delivery to Joint Minister's

Recipient Impacts (First year)	Recipient businesses have enhanced access to the necessary funding	Included in Recipient Impacts Report – Direct/Short Term Outcomes - Year 1 provided to Joint Ministers no later than 30 November 2024	Measures will be determined once baseline data is collated from the survey to be conducted post-implementation and then annually thereafter.
Recipient Impacts (First year)	Recipient businesses have enhanced financial stability	Included in Recipient Impacts Report – Direct/Short Term Outcomes - Year 1 provided to Joint Ministers no later than 30 November 2024	
Recipient Impacts (1-3 years)	Preservation of recipient business' operations.	Included in Recipient Impacts Report - Medium Term Outcomes - Year 3 provided to Joint Ministers no later than 30 November 2026	
Recipient Impacts (1-3 years)	Recipient businesses show enhanced viability and resilience	Included in Recipient Impacts Report - Medium Term Outcomes - Year 3 provided to Joint Ministers no later than 30 November 2026	
Recipient Impacts (3-5 years)	Recipient businesses are displaying indicators of recovery	included in Recipient Impacts Report – Year 5	
Recipient Impacts (3-5 years)	Recipient businesses are contributing to recovery of the regional labour market.	included in Recipient Impacts Report – Year 5	